

Fifth coup attempt leaves 50 dead, 275 injured

Aquino keeps control after bloody battle

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The frail democracy of the Philippines yesterday survived its fifth coup attempt in 18 months after 20 hours of the heaviest fighting seen in Manila since the Second World War.

But with rebels still holding out in Cebu City, the country's second major urban area 350 miles south of the capital, the Government's victory was less than complete.

President Aquino's only son was among at least 275 people injured in the street battles which claimed more than 50 lives, although some reports suggest that the death toll could be far higher.

The leader of the rebels,

Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, was reported to have fled by helicopter and the military leadership loyal to Mrs Aquino has issued a "shoot on sight" order to troops hunting him.

But hours earlier he had felt confident enough to boast that

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he would take the whole country by the end of the day.

His followers held out for hours in part of Manila's biggest military camp in the face of a combined land and air assault by government forces.

Two helicopter gunships and two Second World War vintage T 28 planes bombed and strafed rebel positions inside the armed forces headquarters at the suburban Camp Aguinaldo, setting fire to the command building and routing the hundreds of mutineers after a day-long battle.

Fierce artillery and gun exchanges shook the streets of Manila and scores of civilians were injured.

The Defense Minister, Mr Rafael Iloilo, said that only "mopping-up" operations were left. "We have broken the backbone of the crisis," he said in a radio interview, adding that he was confident the operation would be over by Saturday morning.

But in Cebu the national flag was still being flown upside down over the city hall — a signal, in local terms, meaning "war".

Rebels continued to occupy a regional headquarters and the mayor of Cebu, the country's third largest city, was held under house arrest.

Appeals went out to Manila for government reinforcements to recapture the town and other parts of the province.

President Aquino, looking grim and angry, appeared on television some 13 hours after the coup bid started and told the nation he only son, Benigno, had been seriously wounded in the overthrow attempt. She said his car was ambushed before dawn and that three of his companions

were killed and one wounded. Malacanang Palace — which houses her residence and offices — came under fire in the first hour of the coup attempt. Later the government television station, Channel 4, was attacked.

The rebels also briefly took over a communications complex housing two other television stations and occupied Villamor Air Base — Air Force headquarters — trapping the Air Force Chief, Major-General Antonio Sotelo, in his office for hours.

More than 200 rebels seized the Camelot Hotel while retreating and tourists were trapped inside during a shootout. The rebels later surrendered and were led away.

The British Embassy warned the estimated 2,800 Britons in the Philippines to stay close to home and the Foreign Office advised Britons going there to consider whether their journeys were essential.

A British Airways jet with 197 passengers flew out of Manila minutes before the Government banned all flights leaving country.

The initial hopes that the uprising would be rapidly put down were not realized and last night even the President's supporters admitted that she was facing a grave threat to her position.

Manila appeared in many respects to be a city under siege. The international airport was closed to all flights at nightfall and although no curfew was in operation the normally bustling streets were deserted as Filipinos hurried home to avoid further clashes.

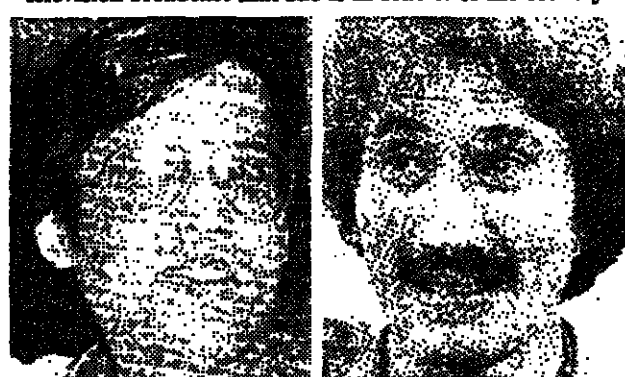
Heavily-armed troops in battle dress were deployed around the airport and gun-toting soldiers kept a close watch on arriving passengers.

WASHINGTON: President Reagan yesterday sent a strong message of support to President Aquino, condemning the coup attempt against her and expressing "profound concern" at the plotting in the Philippines armed forces (Michael Binyon writes).

"The United States condemns this attempt, an unconstitutional action," he said, according to the White House spokesman.



A resolute President Aquino telling the Philippines in a live television broadcast that she is in control of the country.



Benigno Aquino: Wounded son of the President. Colonel Honasan: Leader of the military mutiny.

Accident victims 'die needlessly' for lack of treatment

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A leading surgeon said yesterday that 5,000 accident victims died needlessly in Britain each year because they were not treated properly.

Another 20,000 suffered unnecessary long-term disabilities or even permanent brain damage, which cost the National Health Service tens of millions of pounds, Mr Stephen Westaby, a cardiac surgeon, said.

Mr Westaby, who is a member of a Royal College of Surgeons working party in

Trauma is the condition caused when severe injury is complicated by shock. The most urgent needs of any victim are the establishment of a reliable airway and restoration of breathing, resuscitation of the cardiovascular system, and neurological protection through maintaining the flow of blood to the brain.

Investigating trauma, was speaking on "preventable" deaths at the British Association for the Advancement of Science in Belfast.

The working party will submit a report to the Department of Health and Social Services later this year calling for a fundamental overhaul of ambulance and hospital services needed for the treatment of severe injuries.

Mr Westaby, of the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, described trauma as the commonest form of death in men and women up to the age of 40.

He urged the DHSS to learn from the United States and other European countries in how to organize accident emergency services, with

trained para-medical staff replacing the present ambulance service and specialist trauma units in every big city.

He said: "It is not a matter of providing massive new resources; it needs a reorganization of resources. In Britain we have a long way to go before we provide effective services for accident injury."

Mr Westaby said that the first few minutes after an accident were vital. "The initial care in the first 10 to 15 minutes is what decides whether a patient survives or not. That is where you have to have your experts. It is in that period and during the first half an hour at hospital that the battle is either won or lost."

"If they do go through with head, chest and abdominal surgery then the patient will survive and be back at work in two to three months."

"But if they go to the local casualty department, among all the dog bites and overdoses, then they are not going to get effective treatment."

"We have got to stop being complacent. We have got to get our heads out of the sand and take a look at our performance in comparison with other countries."

Mr Westaby said that road traffic accidents accounted for 60,000 hospital admissions a year and industrial trauma a further 26,000, costing the taxpayer £1,290 million and £960 million respectively.

One in four patients involved in traffic accidents developed a disability that lasted at least six months. "In Britain the medical and nursing staff of accident and

Continued on page 24, col 2

Spanish call off air strike

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Spanish air traffic controllers, who had threatened misery for hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers, last night called off their planned one-day strike.

And as the smiles returned to the faces of harassed airline chiefs, weathermen produced good news for Britons who are staying at home: a warm and sunny weekend.

Thompson said the Spanish settlement was "wonderful news, just what we wanted". The tour organization was preparing to send about 60,000 passengers on package holidays to Spanish resorts over the busiest weekend of the summer.

The exodus of British holidaymakers to Europe should now run smoothly.

Airlines, worried that the Spanish air traffic controllers would make good their strike threat, worked day and night to ensure that every available aircraft was in top condition and positioned to make a quick getaway. Additional staff were recruited to help at airports, and many will report for duty, easing the flow of passengers.

Extra food was stored at Gatwick, Luton and Manchester airports for what could have become a nightmare weekend. Those flying out should have little problem finding something to eat.

MADRID: The last-minute air traffic settlement came after hours of talks in Madrid between Señor Manuel Mederos, director general of civil aviation, and Señor José Perianez, chairman of the Spanish Air Traffic Controllers' Confederation. (Richard Wigg writes).

The 136 air traffic controllers were under strong pressure from hoteliers, backed by both the Catalan and Balearic regional governments. According to hoteliers in Majorca, last weekend's airport strike chaos produced a 30 per cent cancellation rate.

Crowded Gatwick, page 3

81 of League's 92 football clubs defy ministers

By John Goodbody, Sports News Correspondent

The Government and the Football League are on a collision course over the controversial identity card scheme introduced to combat hooliganism.

The scheme has been widely misunderstood and misinterpreted by the league's 92 clubs.

A survey by *The Times* shows that only 11 of the 92 clubs are satisfying what the two sides agreed for this season on February 23 — an identity card scheme, in designated areas, which will cover at least 50 per cent of each ground's capacity.

The disparity could harm the chances of English clubs being admitted to next season's European competitions from which they have been banned since the Heysel Stadium disaster in May 1985, when 39 spectators died at the European Cup Final following rioting by Liverpool supporters.

Mr Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, is adamant that the Government wants this original agreement satisfied.

"This was agreed by both sides and a commitment given to Parliament. I am strong-willed and I am going to deliver on that agreement," he said yesterday.

"Football is a professional sport. It is run by businessmen who have made a contract. Both the Government and the league must deliver on this and the number of other points that were agreed. Other points include extending to all grounds the close-circuit video system, valuable for identifying trouble-makers."

If the clubs do not satisfy the Government, then it is possible that ultimately legislation could be brought in to force the clubs to adhere to the agreement.

During the summer, there was an unpublished agreement by the league and government officials that if clubs could not fulfil these criteria for membership schemes by the start of this

season, then they should satisfy the less stringent demands of 50 per cent of home spectator accommodation, a far smaller proportion of the ground.

But Mr Moynihan terms this as "a holding arrangement."

So far, according to polled figures 41 clubs are complying with this temporary agreement. When he meets the league next month, Mr Moynihan will be examining all the exceptions to the February accord.

Mr Moynihan added: "When the 50 per cent has been reached and it is shown to be a deterrent against the hooligans, together of course with the other agreed measures."

The 11 clubs which have fully satisfied the February agreement of the Government and the Football League on membership schemes are:

● Div 1: Luton, Derby
● Div 2: Reading, Swindon
● Div 3: Brighton, Grimsby, Notts Co
● Div 4: Colchester, Peterborough, Scunthorpe, Torquay

Survey in full... 38

sure, then the Government would like to see the minimum level of membership raised above 50 per cent.

In the aftermath of the Brussels disaster, the climax of a long series of violent incidents at home and abroad, Mrs Margaret Thatcher proposed there should be 100 per cent membership schemes for all clubs. The League knew this would virtually end traditional football which relies heavily on casual spectators.

In the last two years, this was brought down to 70 per cent and finally 50 per cent, which allows stewards and police to concentrate on the areas where membership cards are not compulsory. The advantage of an identity card is that it can be withdrawn from the holder if he is involved in violent incidents.

Continued on page 24, col 1

Foreign buyers sought for BP sale

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government will sell off the bulk of its 31.5 per cent stake in BP to the new breed of small investor it has created, at a discount price compared with the BP price on the stock market. However, it will offer up to a quarter of its shares to overseas buyers at a price it will set at a higher level.

British investors will be given priority if demand is high, and the shares set aside for overseas will be trimmed — but the premium that overseas buyers will be prepared to pay

will be the icing on a sale that will bring the Government in around £6 billion.

Initial estimates of the Government's income from the sale were put at £4 billion, but in the six months since it was announced the insatiable appetite for shares in BP in the world markets — it is now the world's third largest oil company and its profits are at the top of the oil company league table — has pushed the value of the company upwards.

The BP share information office has dealt with 500,000 inquiries in the first week

Two-tier sale, page 25

US-Soviet summit hopes rise

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Optimism about the prospects for an early superpower accord on medium-range missiles and a subsequent third Gorbachev-Reagan summit increased substantially yesterday when a senior Western diplomat here announced that the United States is likely to meet the main outstanding Soviet condition.

The diplomat, who asked not to be identified, told Western correspondents that if West Germany scrapped its 72 ageing Pershing 1A missiles in the early 1990s when they become obsolete, as suggested by Chancellor Kohl, it could be assumed that Washington would take similar action with the nuclear warheads supplied for them.

"Without the missiles, the warheads are useless, so I presume that they would be

Continued on page 24, col 6

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Director Huston dies at 81

Middleton, Rhode Island (AP) — Mr John Huston, the film director who created such box-office successes as *Prizzi's Honor*, *The Maltese Falcon* and *The African Queen*, died in his sleep yesterday aged 81.

He had been renting a house near here during the filming of *Mr North*, a comedy directed by his son Danny in which he was to have played a role, said Ms Patty Raya, its production co-ordinator.

Mr Huston had been recently released from a hospital in Massachusetts after undergoing emergency treatment for pneumonia and his long-time affliction, emphysema. He collapsed and was readmitted to hospital on Wednesday.

He directed some 40 films, including such classics as *The Red Badge of Courage*, *Under the Volcano*, and *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

Obituary, page 10

Photographs, page 24

THE TIMES Degree course vacancies

Today *The Times* Degree Course Vacancies Service covers the humanities and social sciences. Page 11

IN PART ② Wells out

Allan Wells, the former Olympic 100 metres gold medalist, has withdrawn through injury from the world athletics championships which start today in Rome. Previews, pages 38, 39, 40

Safe money?

Why are the Government's attempts to protect private investors going wrong, asks Family Money. Pages 30-34

Exam results

Degree results from London University, including English and History are published today. Page 36

Portfolio

● There is £12,000 to be won today in the *Times* Portfolio Gold competition — the weekly prize of £8,000 plus the daily prize.
● Yesterday's daily prize of £4,000 was won by a reader from Hertfordshire. Details, page 3.
● Portfolio daily list, page 29; weekly check, page 34.

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Met police ban on automatic guns

By a Staff Reporter

The Metropolitan Police will issue no new gun licences for semi-automatic rifles and carbines, Scotland Yard announced last night.

A police spokesman described the decision as an "interim move" pending new Home Office guidelines on gun ownership.

The rule, which took effect immediately, also means that existing licences for such weapons will not be renewed. Licences will be granted only for bolt-action rifles and carbines.

The restrictions follow the Hungerford massacre by Michael Ryan, who used a semi-automatic Kalashnikov rifle to slaughter his victims.

On Wednesday the West Midlands Police force became the first in the country to ban the further licensing of such weapons.

Earlier yesterday Mrs Dorothy Ryan, the mother of Michael Ryan, the Hungerford killer, was buried yes-

terday after a funeral service which avoided any mention of her son and only fleeting reference to the massacre.

Canon John Reynolds described Mrs Ryan, aged 63, as "kind, warm and generous".

He made no mention of Mrs Ryan's role as a devoted mother to the man who, 10 days ago, killed her with shots to the back and abdomen during the rampage in which 16 people died.

Mrs Ryan's funeral, at St Mary's church, Calne, Wiltshire, the home of her sister Mrs Nora Fairbrass, was one of a number held yesterday for victims of the massacre.

Mrs Fairbrass and her husband Stephen, a local councillor and former mayor of Calne, led the mourners which included police representatives and councillors and a clergyman from Hungerford.

Canon Reynolds said later that he had agreed to officiate at a service for Michael Ryan.

Funerals, page 2

Weird and wonderful ways to enjoy science

By Thomson Prentice

Some of science's weirdest proposals have a wonderful way of becoming realities, the British Association for the Advancement of Science heard in Belfast yesterday.

A leading advocate of the eccentric, Professor Alexander Cohn, founder and editor of the *Journal of Irreproducible Results*, listed some examples.

There was the notion of the abdominal zip fastener to enable absent minded surgeons to retrieve swabs, clamps, scissors and other items left in a patient after an operation.

Such a gadget would need a lock to restrict unauthorized entry but might otherwise make sense.

First proposed 30 years ago, zips actually have replaced stitches in some American hospitals in cases where patients' stomachs need to be regularly explored.

Another idea was refrigerated underpants to reduce one of the causes of male infertility. A modified version

British Association reports... 4

of the battery-powered, water-cooled pants has been used by American astronauts in space. Arguably the Scots have a better solution in the kilt.

Towing icebergs to arid areas to boost water supplies has not yet been attempted, but the idea has been considered seriously.

Escorted by warships, icebergs

could be dragged from polar regions to countries such as Israel. The exercise might take several months and half the iceberg might melt on the way, but 1,000 million cubic metres of remaining ice would be enough to meet Israel's annual water consumption, Doctor Cohn said.

An alternative means of conserving water might be paper lids on lakes and reservoirs. One scientist said the lids could be made from the paper used in all the articles devoted to discussing conservation. That was calculated in 1970 at 70,000 square metres, enough to conserve 52,000 cubic metres of water.

Other scientists have seen toothpaste as a possible source of a deadly nerve gas. But since the necessary

experiments would be lethal, the project has never been taken up.

One not so bright idea is the dark bulb. In contrast to the light bulb this would absorb radiant energy, thereby creating complete darkness.

One final theory is unlikely to be tested in the foreseeable future. Since most of the continents are the shape of teardrops, the theory is that the world is in a sense pointing down, since the drops are pointing north. This might indicate that the continents are slowly dripping towards the Arctic and it has been suggested that they might all arrive there in about two million years time.

But the gravitational instability caused by the arrival would make the Earth "flip" and the North Pole would then become the South Pole.

One in 10 drivers on holiday routes fail eyesight tests

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

One in 10 motorists using Britain's busiest holiday routes has failed a roadside eye test used by police drivers.

Devon and Cornwall police say that thousands of motorists may be driving around with tunnel vision and defective eyesight without realizing it.

Over the past five weeks police have tested more than 500 drivers coming off the M5 at Exeter and more than 50 have failed.

The eye tests have been part of a "keep fit on the roads" campaign which was initiated to ensure that motorists who had been driving long distances took a break and did exercises to keep alert.

The stringent Keystone eye test, which involves electronic equipment, is taken by police drivers every 12 months and checks depth of vision, sight, peripheral vision and colour blindness.

If the police officers fail they are taken off the roads and banned from driving police cars.

Mr Alec Benford, a motor police sergeant who has been administering the tests, advises motorists who failed the

Bigamist married old flame

A businessman was forced to lead a secret double life after marrying an old school friend he met on a trip to London.

Just 48 hours after the ceremony Edward O'Driscoll left his bride without consummating the marriage and returned to his legal wife in Cheshire.

Miss Susan Keeble, representing O'Driscoll before Marlborough Street magistrates in London yesterday, said: "He agreed to marry hoping that something would happen to prevent it. He never really intended to go through with it."

O'Driscoll, aged 35, of Blackthorne Avenue, Whitby admitted bigamously marrying Carol Biggane at Marlborough Register Office on October 18 last year.

Mr David Brodie, for the prosecution, said O'Driscoll married his legal wife Amanda in June 1985 after divorcing his first wife.

Shortly after the wedding the couple set up in business selling medical supplies for which the husband had to make frequent trips to London.

He met Miss Biggane on one of the trips and began a relationship with her.

Miss Biggane, from Clapham in south London did not know O'Driscoll was already married.

His secret eventually came to light after Miss Biggane sent divorce papers to his home address where his real wife opened the letter.

Magistrate Mr John Nichols said he refrained from jailing O'Driscoll after hearing that his legal marriage was still intact, although "tremendously fraught".

He added: "In these particular circumstances the injury is limited to bruised emotions, painful as they may be."

O'Driscoll was fined £1,250 and ordered to pay £250 costs.

Cleveland pair 'lost home and children'

A couple caught up in the Cleveland sex abuse controversy lost their home as well as their five children, a court was told yesterday.

Fire raiders destroyed their council house three weeks after social workers took the children away.

The couple from Hemlington, Middlesbrough, are now in a hostel.

The juvenile court in Middlesbrough made an interim care order for another 28 days.

Mr Nick Woodhouse, their solicitor, said: "They can't ask for the children back because they have nowhere to keep them."

More land for housing in South-east

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Changing lifestyles will shortly force the Government to release more land for housing in the South-east, Mr William Waldegrave, Minister for Housing and Planning, said yesterday.

Housing policy must respond to the greater number of families who do not want their elderly relatives living with them; who divorce more often; and to youngsters who want to set up home earlier, he added.

"Perhaps those who cam-

Holiday flight airports switched

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Airlines are having to switch a growing number of holiday flights from Gatwick to Stansted because they are in danger of exhausting their night landing slot allocation.

One plane load of passengers flying from Faro in Portugal with Air Europe were unexpectedly landed at Stansted in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Many, especially those with children, complained as they were driven across London back to Gatwick to pick up their cars.

They were handed a letter on board the aircraft apologizing for the switch.

In the letter Mr Roy Phillips, managing director of Air Europe said: "We are now faced with a situation where our slots are exhausted."

In common with other carriers we therefore have no option but to divert flights away from Gatwick."

Jet aircraft are allowed to fly into the noise conscious airport on only 4,300 occasions between the hours of 11.30pm and 6am throughout the summer.

Last November the airlines met to work out who would operate when, and each was given a certain number to use at its discretion. Air Europe was allocated 251 night movements — about 60 less than it had planned to use.

"We have found in the past that we don't use up all the potential night movements

A question of royal highness

The Prince of Wales could become the first royal steeplejack when he visits Salisbury Cathedral next month.

No one is saying if he intends to scale the 404ft spire but past events have shown he has the nerve, if Buckingham Palace aides allow it.

The Prince will certainly be going half way up to view of one of the most beautiful parts of his future kingdom.

Rumours that the Prince's private secretary, Sir John Riddell, visited the cathedral yesterday to test the scaffolding were discounted by Mr Frank Lockyer, deputy director general of the spire appeal.

He said Sir John discussed the programme for the Prince's visit on September 17 to lay the first stone for the restoration of the spire at the 750-year-old building.

The Prince, president of the £5.5 million appeal to pay for the repair work, has visited the cathedral three times since it began.

Battle looms over new digital tape

By Robert Matthews

Digital audio tape hi-fi machines, the revolutionary cassette players producing the sound quality of compact discs, will be available in the UK in a matter of weeks.

Sony (UK) is to be the first company to market the machines in the UK, in a move which will mark the start of a bitter hi-tech battle.

The record industry believes the new system, known as Dat, will kill off the burgeoning CD market by enabling virtually perfect copies of the discs to be mass-produced by hi-fi pirates.

However, Sony maintains that the two digital technologies would exist side by side.

The high price of the first Dat machines is likely to put a brake on the penetration of the CD market in any case.

Sony's first machine, the DTC 1000 ES, is expected to retail at around £1,300. Tapes will cost £2 for one hour, and £11 for two hours of unbroken and perfectly reproduced sound.

Dat will initially serve a

small semi-professional market but the potential is, Sony believes, enormous.

Mr Peter Scapellato, of the British Phonographic Industry, which represents record companies, said he was concerned about the machines.

The BPI maintains that without adequate control on copying, those companies which set up multi-million pound CD making plants will never recover their investment.

The BPI is lobbying MPs to ensure that the Copyright Bill, due to come before Parliament in the next session, has adequate safeguards against piracy of CD by Dat machines.

A 10 per cent levy on tape is one of the measures being considered.

Mr Steve Dowdle, Sony audio group manager, said: "We are saddened that the record industry does not share our enthusiasm because we see this step as a natural one in improving the quality of music in the home."

building of council houses. Councils should not use the proceeds of council house sales as if they were a sort of property company.

"They can and should be used for repair of existing housing stock, some for sale and some to retain."

Mr Waldegrave confirmed that the first important steps towards setting up social housing organizations to take over local authority flats, leaving councils to concentrate on housing welfare, will be in the Government's Housing Bill to be introduced this autumn.

Victor enjoys the spoils of Watership Down



Like the rabbits that arrived at this spot years before, Mr Philip Coussens will enjoy life at Watership Down even more after the struggle that made it possible (Ruth Gledhill writes).

For Mr Coussens, who made a fortune when his computer leasing firm, IBL, was floated on the stock market two years ago, fought a last minute battle for the 2,230-acre Kingsclere estate, in Hampshire, with another millionaire, the composer Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Estate agents handling the sale revealed that Mr Lloyd Webber put in a late bid, though the composer's

agent insisted that he was not interested in buying.

Mr Lloyd Webber can look over Watership Down from the windows of his country home, Sydnampton Court, knowing that a few minutes earlier and a few pounds more and it could have been his.

Mr Richard Liddiard, who handled the sale for a Newbury estate agent, said: "Mr Lloyd Webber put in an offer with moments to spare. Before that, we had no indication that he was interested."

With 60 seconds to deadline, Mr Lloyd Webber increased his offer by

£200,000, but so had Mr Coussens. The composer tried to increase his offer, but Mr Coussens held the agents to the deadline.

Mr Coussens, who has already instructed architects to start work on plans to modernize one of two farmhouses on the £5 million estate with farmland, woodland, downs and nine cottages, said: "I had some fierce competition from Andrew Lloyd Webber."

He is about to put his present home, Purley Hall, near Pangbourne, Berkshire on the market.

Mr Coussens bought and restored

Purley Hall to be a home for himself, his wife, Valerie, and their two sons, Nigel, aged 16, and Stephen, aged 13.

But his family and three other people were killed in a helicopter crash last year, and he felt unable to live alone at the hall.

As with Mr Richard Adams' best selling story, this one has a happy ending. Mr Coussens is looking forward to remarrying and starting a new family.

"I have a lady in mind, but I have not yet named a date", he said.

(Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Heart boy's death at the dentist

A schoolboy who died in a dentist's chair while having two teeth removed had a hole in his heart, an inquest in Nottingham was told yesterday.

Matthew Gadsby, aged 10, of Aysworth, Nottinghamshire never regained consciousness after being given his first gas anaesthetic for the routine extractions.

Before the hearing, Mrs Sue Gadsby said: "We took him in and that was it, we never saw him again. We noticed people being ushered out and sensed Matthew was in trouble, but we were not allowed in to see him."

Dr David Fagan, a pathologist, said a post mortem examination showed Matthew had a hole in his heart and death had been caused by air on the surface of the brain and of the arteries of the heart. An air bubble is thought to have entered the blood stream when his teeth were pulled at a surgery at Eastwood, Nottinghamshire.

Dr Fagan said people with holes in their hearts carried on normal lives until they were placed under abnormal stress.

The inquest was adjourned.

Letter of despair from jail

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Captain Simon Hayward, the Life Guards officer sentenced to five years in prison after being found guilty of drug smuggling, has sent a letter from jail in which he claims that he is being prevented by Swedish authorities from properly preparing for his appeal court appearance next month.

The letter, passed to *The Times*, highlights the sense of despair and hopelessness now felt by the Briton.

Captain Hayward, aged 32, who is being held in Stockholm, admits to having been "devastated" by the court verdict, having "truly believed" he would be cleared of any involvement in drug smuggling.

He says he is fighting the "grave miscarriage of justice" inflicted by the Swedes "with one arm tied behind my back." His appeal is due to be heard on September 9.

The officer's remarks are contained in a letter sent to Mr John Gorst, the Conservative MP for Hendon North, who has championed his cause and protested his innocence.

Captain Hayward was

Hayward drug case

Letter of despair from jail

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

This, despite all details now being publicly known.

"I am having to fight for five years of my life with one hand tied behind my back. I am expected to stand up in court and plead my case when I have not been allowed to fully prepare myself."

With the full impact of the court verdict and sentence having sunk in, Captain Hayward writes ruefully of how he is being punished many times over for a crime in which he played no part.

"I must admit to feeling rather bitter, not only because I know myself to be innocent but also because the guilty ones in this case will emerge from prison having lost nothing but time, and probably to enjoy their ill-gotten gains."

"I, in contrast, will have lost my job, my career, my regiment, many friends and my good name."

Mr Gorst, who has been highly critical of the Swedish judicial system, said last night that unless the spotlight of world opinion was focused on Captain Hayward's appeal, there was little chance of success.

Portfolio Gold—Boost for student's studies

A sixth form student plans to put his share of yesterday's £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize towards buying books and leaving expenses for his polytechnic civil engineering course.

Robert Blair, aged 18, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, has just finished his A levels and plans to go to Nottingham Polytechnic. He had been checking the Portfolio Gold cards owned by his father, Mr James Blair, a London University lecturer in biochemistry who was away on a two-week holiday.

Mr Blair, whose family has taken *The Times* for eight years, said: "I am very surprised. I can't get over it."

Readers wishing to play the Portfolio Gold competition can obtain a card by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

Double rapist gets life

A man who raped a woman just 90 days after being released from a seven-year sentence for a similar crime, was jailed for life yesterday.

Joseph Galloway, unemployed, of no fixed address, carried out the attack on a woman in Stevenage, Hertfordshire in March.

St Albans Crown Court heard last month how Galloway called at the woman's flat late one evening. The woman, aged 32, who is only 5ft 5ins tall, let him in because she knew him through a friend.

It was as he was about to leave that she was dragged into her bedroom, raped and repeatedly hit about the head.

The woman told the jury: "He had me in a stranglehold with his arm around my neck and he threatened to kill me. I was terrified."

She suffered a broken collar bone and severe bruising.

She tried to escape when a friend knocked at the door but Galloway kept his hold on her.

Galloway claimed that the woman had asked him to stay.

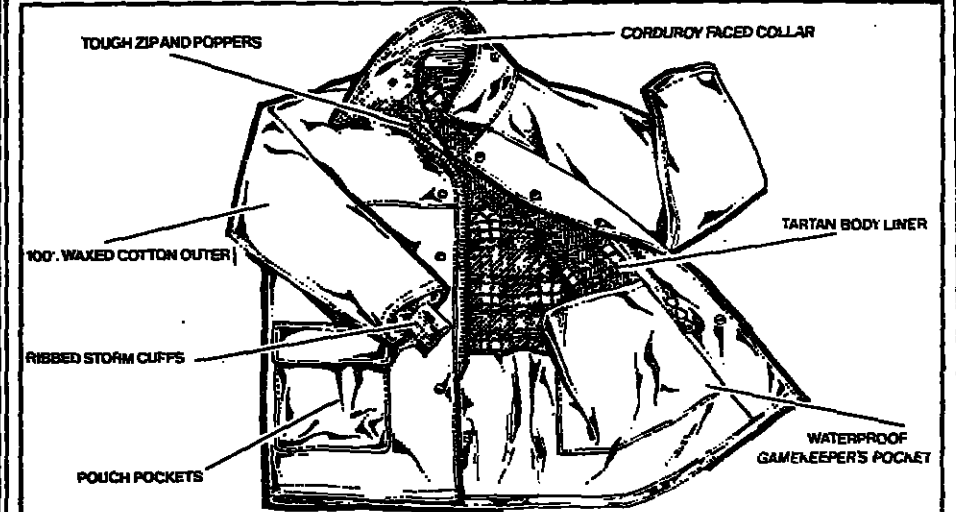
However, the jury convicted him of rape, grievous bodily harm and theft.

Judge Colin Colston told Galloway: "You constitute a grave danger to women. You show no remorse to your victim and you have no realization of the effect of what you did to that woman."

"There was violence over and above the force necessary to commit the rape on that small, light woman."

"The rape was repeated and you are a man who has a previous conviction for rape and it is significant to note the frightening similarities between the earlier rape and this one."

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New cheaper vaccine will reduce risk of hepatitis

By Robert Matthews

A new low-cost vaccine launched in Britain yesterday will substantially increase the number of health staff protected from hepatitis B, the second most common cause of cancer.

Developed in Belgium by the pharmaceutical company Smith Kline & French, the genetically-engineered vaccine which costs half as much as the conventional vaccine, has been introduced at a time when the Department of Health is under pressure to provide extra funds for the vaccination of health care workers who risk contracting the disease from contaminated blood.

The virus responsible for the disease can cause serious liver damage, including cancer. The number of cases has doubled over the last decade, with about 2,000 cases seen each year in the UK.

Medical staff are ten times more likely to contract the disease, as a result of accidents such as scalp injuries. Homosexuals, drug abusers and members of the emergency services are also high-risk groups.

Conventional hepatitis B vaccine, derived from blood plasma, is both expensive and in short supply.

The new vaccine is based on developments in genetic engineering which will enable it to be mass-produced.

The company's scientists have exploited the discovery, made in the 1960s, of the protein on the surface of the hepatitis virus which is recognized by the body's immune system and triggers the production of antibodies to fight the disease.

The sequence of the DNA code which tells the virus how to make the protein has been isolated and built into yeast. This simple organism "decodes" the DNA sequence, and then mass-produces the protein.

After purification the protein is built into a vaccine suitable for injection. Clinical trials have been carried out

worldwide over the last three years and no serious side-effects discovered, the company said yesterday.

Dr Francis André, director of medical and scientific services, said the vaccine has already been approved for use in a number of European countries and its low cost has substantially increased the number of health staff protected against the potentially fatal disease.

The ability to mass-produce the vaccine should lead to its cost, already half that of plasma-based vaccine, dropping to levels affordable by Third World countries.

Hepatitis B is believed to be the most common cause of cancer in the world after smoking, with more than two million dying every year from the disease.

A course of three injections, which should protect against the disease for about three to five years, will cost £31.50.

The Department of Health said it has no plans to provide separate funding to health authorities for hepatitis B vaccinations, as the responsibility for resources lies with each authority.

However, the department is drawing up guidelines on which sectors of health workers it considers are at risk. These are believed to correspond with British Medical Association findings which recently recommended that general practitioners vaccinate all hospital health care staff.

Studies have shown that the cost of vaccination of medical staff, even with current vaccines, is much more cost-effective than allowing some to catch the disease and take long periods off work.

Prison officers' leaders have also been pressing for expansion of their vaccination programme. Immunization has been largely restricted to those dealing with drug abusers or working in prison hospitals. But officers believe coverage should be expanded to those at risk from violent virus carriers.

Scientific staff in threat over pay

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

Laboratory staff dealing with Aids tests, cervical smears and blood transfusions are threatening to withdraw their labour unless they get pay parity with other professional groups.

Managers say the officers' action could seriously disrupt patient services.

Britain's 17,000 medical laboratory scientific officers have been offered a 4.5 per cent rise but believe they deserve 9 per cent in line with that given to radiographers and occupational therapists.

The Institute of Medical Laboratory Science has already told Mr Tony Newton, the Minister for Health, that there will be critical staff shortages unless pay is increased.

In a letter to the minister in June, the institute also pressed for the profession to be covered by the pay review body which determines pay for most other professions allied to medicine.

The Government has so far failed to respond and staff in Trent are threatening to take unilateral action by refusing to pay their registration subscriptions this October.

All laboratory staff by law have to register with the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine every year. If they refuse they are not allowed to continue working and are struck off.

Hundreds of staff in Sheffield, Doncaster and Nottingham have said they are not going to pay their fees and hence will have to stop working.

Managers faced with unregistered staff will have to decide whether to suspend them or allow them to work illegally.

A registered scientific officer, with three years' postgraduate training, is paid £6,300.

The Department of Health said that the scientific officers failed to meet the three criteria essential for staff under the pay review body: that they did not take industrial action, they had direct patient contact and they had some link with the nursing profession.

Chia-Chia's farewell to globe-trotting keeper



Mr Mick Carman, the head keeper, yesterday with Chia-Chia, the solitary giant panda at London Zoo. Mr Carman will soon be leaving for a fact-finding trip to Tokyo, where he will attend an international symposium on pandas; Woolong in China, where he will tour the world's largest panda research centre; and Mexico, the country with the best record for breeding pandas. (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Baker to keep eye on Brent

By Our Education
Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, made clear yesterday that he intends to watch schools in the London borough of Brent.

In a letter to Mr Michael Stoten, the director of education, he demanded progress reports next month on curriculum development, secondary reorganization, staffing, management and individual schools.

Earlier this year, school inspectors said schools in Brent were not educating pupils effectively, efficiently and conscientiously.

Brent replied with a 43-page document, *Equality and Excellence*, which promised to "restore confidence".

Yesterday's letter merely noted the contents of the paper.

British Association

Unemployed more prone to suicide

By Thomson Prentice

Unemployed people are more likely to attempt suicide than those in work, specialists said yesterday.

Dr Stephen Platt, a leading Edinburgh psychiatrist, said: "Prolonged unemployment may be a significant predisposing factor in suicidal behaviour because it leads to increases in family tensions, arguments and violence."

Other factors involved included depression, hopelessness, isolation and financial hardship, he said.

However, a study conducted by Dr Platt among jobless people in Edinburgh showed there had been a decline in suicidal tendencies in the last few years compared with the economic recession of the 1970s.

The study looked at cases of "parasuicide", defined as non-fatal, self-inflicted injuries.

The highest rates were found among long-term unemployed men, who were 12 times more at risk than their employed counterparts and between two and five times more at risk than those men who had been out of work for only a short time.

Men aged 45 or over were

most at risk, while unemployed women, though still prone to parasuicide, were less so than men.

"The public health implications from this study must cause concern", Dr Platt said.

"The high level of risk among the long-term unemployed may be reduced to some extent by allocating more resources to help alleviate the economic, psychological and social impact of prolonged joblessness."

"But while these and other measures might make unemployment more bearable, they don't address the underlying problem."

However, Dr Paul Jackson, a Sheffield University psychologist, suggested that the mental health consequences of unemployment were not inevitable.

"It is overwhelmingly a disabling experience that can have devastating effects on people", he said. Studies had repeatedly shown that psychological health was lower among those without jobs.

But it should be possible to make unemployment a positive alternative to traditional working roles, he said.

Sex for dinosaurs was never easy and was possibly downright dangerous, but their prehistoric passions must have ultimately been satisfied, a geologist said yesterday.

However awkward love-making was for the beasts, it enabled them to survive for about 150 million years and was certainly not the reason for their extinction, Dr Beverly Halstead, of Reading University, said.

In a rare public demonstration of how Mr and Mrs Rex might have mated, Dr Halstead enlisted the help of his scientific assistant, Dr Helen Haste, on the stage of the lecture theatre of the Ulster Museum.

This indicated to a packed and intrigued audience that in accordance with the old Hollywood dictum the secret was to keep one foot firmly on the floor.

This was necessary in view of the great bulk and weight of the original participants. For two mating brachiosaurs, weighing in at about 160 tons each, the earth surely would have moved.

"Whatever caused their extinction it was not the dinosaurs' failure to perform", Dr Halstead said. "They must have enjoyed it because this was not the sort of thing they would attempt unless they felt like it."

In spite of their size dinosaurs were not equipped with proportionate reproductive organs. These were concealed beneath their tails.

Dinosaurs lived about 220 million years ago and became extinct 65 million years ago. Scientists are divided about what caused them to vanish. The theory of mass destruction suggests that they were wiped out by the impact of an asteroid on the earth's climate.

Others believe dinosaurs died out gradually over millions of years.

"One of the joys of palaeontology (the study of ancient life on earth) is that it is possible to let the mind wander freely in imagining what dinosaurs were really like", Dr Mike Benton, a geologist at Queen's University, Belfast, said in a separate lecture.

The Open College

Big response to new venture

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Open College, Britain's latest venture into adult education and training, which opens for business on September 14, reported yesterday that it had received more than 10,000 inquiries.

The college expects to enrol up to 50,000 students in the first 12 months of its campaign to "make self-improvement part of everyday life". It believes it has a potential market of six million.

More than 80 learning packages have been devised on subjects as diverse as understanding information technology, running a public house, basic numeracy, looking after children and becoming a successful negotiator.

Learning will be by tele-

vision (on Channel 4 with personalities such as Anna Ford), radio, video, audio cassettes, workbooks and computer programs. Some tutor support will also be available.

Fees vary from £20 for a course on how to study, to £450 for a comprehensive guide to doing business in China.

Mr Aldwyn Cooper, marketing director of the college, said that most of the early inquiries wanted to learn about new technology in the office and how to become first-line managers.

"There has also been a big response from women who want to know how to start a career or get back into one and

from unemployed people interested in courses on setting up a business", Mr Cooper said.

The college accent is on openness: open access, which means no entry qualifications; and open learning, which means that students proceed at their own pace.

No degrees or diplomas are offered but some courses will count as credits towards recognized qualifications.

About 200 "open access centres", most funded by local authorities, will open their doors to potential students on September 14. Course materials will be available for inspection.

Details are available on a 24-hour Open College hotline: 0235 555 444.

Benenden labs leave the stables

By Our Education
Correspondent

Benenden School, in Kent, one of Britain's most expensive girls' public schools, is to move its science teaching out of the stables at last.

The school, whose most famous former pupil is the Princess Royal, announced yesterday that it is to spend £1 million on seven laboratories to replace the wooden stable block where science and other activities have been "temporarily" housed since the 1920s.

The announcement caps a seven-year building programme which has already produced new boarding houses, classrooms, squash courts and a gymnasium.

Fees at the school, which has 400 boarders, are £7,500 a year.

"At the moment the grounds look like the battle of the Somme after heavy rain", Mr Robin Dalton Holmes, the school bursar said.

"I'm afraid that the noise is going to be pretty horrific for the next few months."

Mrs Gillian duCharme, the headmistress, said she hoped the new laboratories would encourage girls to consider careers in the sciences.

Lawyer attacks warrants 'bungle'

The lawyer representing Mr Kevin McDonald, the Irish embassy passport official whom Britain is trying to extradite from Dublin to London, accused Britain of bungling yesterday.

Mr Elio Malocco said that Dublin District Court had been misled when Mr McDonald, aged 37, was re-manded until yesterday from a previous hearing to allow the British authorities to produce further warrants in addition to

the two already served. Yesterday the court was told there were to be no further warrants.

"It is an outrageous abuse by the British authorities of my client's rights and the legal system here", Mr Malocco said.

"As a result of blundering by the British authorities, Mr McDonald has had to be re-manded on three occasions and has made 21 appearances on different dates to the Bridewell police station."

Mr McDonald was re-manded on bail yesterday with orders to report only once a week to the police. September 16 was set as the "peremptory" date for an extradition hearing.

Mr McDonald vanished from London last April when the Irish government launched an investigation into an alleged "passports-for-sale" scandal at their London embassy. He reappeared in Dublin earlier this month.

Sales break £1m barrier at RA show

By Lynda Murdin, Arts Correspondent

Sales of works from that annual tapestry of misadventures, the Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, broke the £1 million barrier this year, it was announced last night.

A record £1,145,045 was achieved from 3,159 sales, compared to last year's £922,177 from 3,878 sales.

The most expensive items sold during this year's show, which ended on Sunday, were five bronze sculptures entitled *Summer's End* from a limited edition of six by Sydney Harpley. They cost £12,650 each while an oil painting, "Morning Glory", by John Ward, realized £12,000.

The cheapest items were

David Hockney's extended though limited edition prints, "Bounce For Bradford", produced on newspaper after a publicity campaign for his hometown. Priced at 18p each, all 10,000 were snapped up.

In spite of the increase, the 126,966 attendance figure was down on last year's, as the exhibition ran for 11 rather than 12 weeks.

Even so, the self-supporting Royal Academy will show a healthy profit on the event as it charges a 25 per cent commission on sales.

A spokeswoman said last night: "It is the biggest single art exhibition that gives artists the opportunity to sell work. We are obviously delighted.

More than a million pounds can only be good news for the artists and the Royal Academy."

Open to both aspiring amateurs and well known professionals, all of whose works are subjected to a lengthy selection process, the exhibition this year even attracted a watercolour entry from the Prince of Wales. It was not for sale.

The Royal Academy is tackling problems inherent in moving pieces of England's art and architectural heritage into the centre of London.

The next big exhibition, *The Age of Chivalry*, from November 6 will feature fragile artefacts, including a 22 ft

stained-glass window from Trinity Chapel at Canterbury Cathedral and a wooden panel, known as the Synagogue Panel, from York Minster.

It has already been discovered that the latter is too big to take down the spiral staircase.

Three untidy pages of Beatles' lyrics, handwritten in Biro, were sold for £14,300 at Christie's, South Kensington, yesterday - more than was raised in the same auction by Ringo Starr's 1970 Mercedes Benz coupe.

The sale of 333 lots of pop memorabilia, seemingly in inexhaustible supply judging by the number of recent similar events, fetched £200,799, including premium.

TOMORROW

THE MAN WHO SHOCKED A GENERATION



KENNETH TYNAN,
BY HIS WIFE

SUNDAY ISN'T SUNDAY WITHOUT

THE SUNDAY TIMES

WORLD SUMMARY

Reagan to back
Contras' aid plan

Washington — The White House is expected to go along with a proposal by the Nicaraguan Contras to hold renewed military aid in a trust account pending the outcome of peace talks between the five Central American countries (Christopher Thomas writes).

Under the plan humanitarian aid would be provided in order to keep the Contra army alive while talks continue. By holding military aid in reserve, the Administration believes pressure will be maintained on Managua to abide by the peace plan it signed in Guatemala on August 7. According to the Guatemalan accord Nicaragua must move towards democracy by November 7.

President Reagan made clear to rebel leaders during an hour-long meeting in Los Angeles on Thursday that he was attracted to their proposal. Current US aid expires on September 30 and Mr Reagan is expected to lodge a new aid request soon afterwards.

Nasa test
delayed Three US
executions

Washington — A leaky firehose and some minor last-minute electronic hitches forced a 48-hour postponement until today of the first test of the booster rocket that has been redesigned to overcome the flaws that caused the fatal crash of the space shuttle Challenger in January 1986 (Mohsin Ali writes).

The two-minute ground test at a desert site about 85 miles north-west of Salt Lake City, Utah, is an important step in Nasa's efforts to resume shuttle flights in June next year. The rocket is loaded with 1.1 million pounds of propellant. The test will cost about \$15 million (£9.25 million) and is the first of five or six to verify that redesigned parts will work safely.

Washington — Three people were executed in the various states early yesterday — the most people to die in any one day since the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976 (Michael Binyon writes).

A triple murderer from Trinidad who forced his victims to drink drain cleaning fluid and shot them during a robbery in 1974 was executed by lethal injection in Utah. In Alabama a man convicted of being an accessory to murder, although he did not pull the trigger, was executed in the electric chair, and another murderer was also electrocuted in Florida, the first execution in the state for a year. The executions brought the total to 22 so far this year, the most since 1976.

Election in Mauritius

Port Louis (Reuter) — Mr Anerood Jugnauth, the Prime Minister of Mauritius, will have a tough battle to retain power in the Indian Ocean island's general election tomorrow, observers said.

His four-party coalition has been undermined by revelations that five leading politicians were involved in heroin smuggling. The Opposition, led by Mr Paul Berenger's Mauritian Militant Movement, paints Mr Jugnauth's administration as fractious and corrupt and the campaign as a whole has centred on personal attacks.

UN arms deal near
Waldheim mourns

Geneva — The 40-nation UN Disarmament Conference ended its 1987 session yesterday seeing itself as very close to accord on a treaty banning chemical weapons, which are believed to be in the arsenals of at least 16 countries — and used by Iraq in the Gulf war (Alan McGregor writes).

What delegates call "remarkable" progress has been given impetus by Soviet acceptance of the US concept of "challenge inspection without right of refusal" should a signatory state be suspected of clandestine chemical weapons production or procurement.

Vienna — President Waldheim of Austria, at the centre of a continuing controversy over his alleged involvement in war crimes in the Balkans during the Second World War, yesterday laid a wreath at the former Nazi concentration camp of Mauthausen on the River Danube (Richard Bassett writes).

Dr Waldheim said his visit was "an obvious gesture of respect for the victims of the Holocaust", and added that he had "already spoken of the horrific sufferings of the Jews at such places, and how we must do all we can to prevent any repetition of such events".

Ex-minister guilty

Sydney — Rex Jackson, a former minister in the New South Wales government, was behind bars last night after being found guilty of bribery (Stephen Taylor writes).

He was charged with conspiring, when he was Corrective Services Minister in 1983, to receive bribes in exchange for arranging the early release of three prisoners. He pleaded not guilty at a trial lasting 33 days in which a Sydney businessman, Fayez Hakim, was also found guilty by a jury yesterday. They were remanded in custody for sentencing on Tuesday. The scandal tainted the state Labor government.

Hopes rise
for end to
mine strike

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg

A settlement of the 19-day-old strike by upwards of 300,000 black coal and gold miners in South Africa appeared imminent late yesterday.

With the employers, principally the giant Anglo-American Corporation, sacking thousands of strikers, both sides seem to have realised that they have painted themselves into a corner.

According to stock market analysts, South African gold production has been cut by at least one third.

For the National Union of Mineworkers, the call to strikers to leave the mine hostel compounds and return home — in most cases beyond the borders of South Africa — as well as the sackings, threatens a serious loss of members.

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the NUM general secretary, insists the main strike issue is still wages, but the gap between what the union is demanding and the maximum that the Chamber is offering is now less than 3 per cent.

Late yesterday, talks were resumed between the union and Anglo-American. It is assumed that if Anglo-American and the union reach a settlement the rest of the industry will follow suit.

SYDNEY: Australian coal-mining companies began sacking miners yesterday because of a slump in the industry. The unions were planning to start strikes from Monday (Reuter reports).

Australian Coal Association officials said 1,200 workers would be dismissed in the next few days. Union leaders said 3,000 miners could lose their jobs before the end of the year.

Pretoria
tightens
press laws

From Our Own
Correspondent
Johannesburg

The spectre of Government censors sitting in newspaper offices in South Africa loomed yesterday with the publication of harsh new press laws.

The regulations, which have been made retrospective to June 11, empower the Minister of Home Affairs to warn publishers that "in his opinion" the contents of any periodic publication threaten public safety, the maintenance of public order or the ending of the state of emergency.

If the warnings are ignored the Minister will be empowered to ban publication for a maximum of three months.

Periodicals are defined as daily newspapers, publications issued at intervals of up to 10 days, or those issued at intervals spanning more than 10 days.

The Government's latest muzzling of the press — there are already more than 100 laws on the statute book affecting what may or may not be published — follows an announcement in Parliament on Wednesday by Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, that curbs were to be imposed on what he described as the "revolution supporting media".

This was interpreted as being directed at what the Government has labelled the "alternative" press, a number of weeklies and periodicals mostly inclined to the political left, which have emerged during the past two years.

There was surprise yesterday that mainstream newspapers have not been excluded from the new regulations.

Drama of rebellion in Philippines



Army mutineers defending the wrecked gates of the Manila Air Force base while, right, captured rebels are kept under close guard in Quezon City.

Anatomy of a fifth
failed attempt to
overthrow Aquino

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

When President Aquino of the Philippines first learned at midnight of the coup attempt, she accepted the news more with resignation than concern. "Is it this again?" she asked. Perhaps she was assuming that, having beaten off four previous attempts, her forces could take another in their stride.

It was to prove the most serious challenge since she came to power after the revolt of February, 1986, which ousted Mr Ferdinand Marcos from the presidential palace.

Within hours on Friday, Mrs Aquino's only son would be ambushed and shot in the back, the heaviest fighting seen in the country since the Second World War would be raging, and the Air Force would be bombing rebel barracks.

Nothing had prepared her to expect the uprising. The situation was outwardly so quiet she had planned to spend yesterday visiting schools in the provinces. For months, the previously restive military had seemed calmer. The threat from the right had come to seem secondary to the left-wing challenge represented by Wednesday's strike over petrol prices.

One of the President's leading security advisers had said only two days earlier: "On a stability scale of one to 10, I'd say the country right now is 8.5 to nine."

An hour went by after the first alert before the first action, at about 1 am (6 pm on Thursday, London time). Powerful explosions were heard near the Malacanang presidential palace and a truckload of armed troops was spotted heading towards it.

Rebel forces bombarded the palace, but apparently left soon after 3 am (8 pm in London) after spraying gunfire at random.

Rumours spread that the chief of the armed forces, General Fidel Ramos, and the former Defence Secretary, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, were behind the attempt. At about 3 am (8 pm in London), the General declared his loyalty to the President in a radio broadcast.

But there was no word from

Mr Enrile, who was previously the defence chief under Mr Marcos, and was sacked by Mrs Aquino last November after army officers loyal to him were linked to coup plots.

The area around the palace was now said to be quiet, but there was continuous firing around the state-owned Channel 4 television station.

Soon afterwards, the General offered further reassurance. He said that up to 300 dissident troops loyal to Mr Marcos had attempted to overthrow Mrs Aquino, but were being repulsed. Government forces were in control and she was safe.

General Ramos said that the dissident soldiers appeared to come from the central Luzon province of Nueva Ecija, about 80 miles north of Manila.

Half an hour later, the first casualty count spoke of at least six soldiers wounded, a figure which grew in one hour to 61 wounded and one dead.

Just before 5 am (10 pm in London), the President and

senior aides went on radio to assure the country that the coup attempt was over but that mopping-up operations were continuing. She declared: "In a few hours we can resolve this."

According to Mr Joker Arroyo, the Executive Secretary, she told military commanders: "Identify them and defeat them."

In Washington, the US State Department expressed confidence at around 10 pm London time that she would do exactly that.

Just before midnight London time, it became clear that the rebels had seized part of Camp Aguinaldo, Manila's main army camp. Military officials named the leader as Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan. General Ramos had offered to negotiate with the rebels, a spokesman said on radio. Suddenly analysts were speaking of the bloodiest coup attempt to date.

Corridors at the University of St Thomas Hospital in Manila had blood on the floor,

and staff said they treated a stream of wounded.

Mr Ricardo Medina, aged 20, and his brother Rod, told the Reuter news agency that they and many others were shot near Malacanang by rebels who drove up in trucks and started firing wildly.

Cardinal Jaime Sin, the leading churchman in the strongly Roman Catholic Philippines, said on radio: "Let us keep calm during this hour of crisis. We cannot allow anarchy to reign over the country."

Half an hour later, rebels were said to be occupying part of a building at the Philippine Air Force headquarters at the Villamor air base in the capital. The group were said to be led by Colonel Tito Legaspi, an air force officer and another close associate of Mr Enrile.

The air force commander, Major-General Antonio Sotelo, had fled by helicopter.

In a broadcast on Channel 13 television, a rebel officer said the renegades now controlled Camp Aguinaldo, Manila's main army base. He said: "By the end of the day we will control the entire country. We have taken it upon ourselves to initiate the struggle for justice."

Mr Marcos, in exile in Hawaii, was asked by an interviewer on US television if he had sent money to the rebels or was in touch with them. "No, no, no," he stated. "I promised the American Government I would not have anything to do with the destabilization... I intend to fulfil that promise."

By 2.30 am London time, it was learned that the casualties included a New Zealand journalist, Mr Robert McDonald, aged 26, a reporter for Pacific Defence Reporter magazine, who was shot in the head when caught in crossfire near Channel 4 television station.

The rebels' leader, Colonel Honasan, in a statement telephoned to Reuter, made no overall demands, insisted his men were not loyal to Mr Marcos, and added: "I fervently ask people to pray for us."

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In a broadcast on Channel 13 television, a rebel officer said the renegades now controlled Camp Aguinaldo, Manila's main army base. He said: "By the end of the day we will control the entire country. We have taken it upon ourselves to initiate the struggle for justice."

Mr Marcos, in exile in Hawaii, was asked by an interviewer on US television if he had sent money to the rebels or was in touch with them. "No, no, no," he stated. "I promised the American Government I would not have anything to do with the destabilization... I intend to fulfil that promise."

By 2.30 am London time, it was learned that the casualties included a New Zealand journalist, Mr Robert McDonald, aged 26, a reporter for Pacific Defence Reporter magazine, who was shot in the head when caught in crossfire near Channel 4 television station.

The rebels' leader, Colonel Honasan, in a statement telephoned to Reuter, made no overall demands, insisted his men were not loyal to Mr Marcos, and added: "I fervently ask people to pray for us."

When, in turn, the soldiers began to feel unhappy with Mrs Aquino, Colonel Honasan was one of the "young Turks" centred on Mr Enrile — most of them, in fact, from Colonel Honasan's graduate year at the Military Academy, 1971 — who began to indulge the taste they had acquired for political intrigue.

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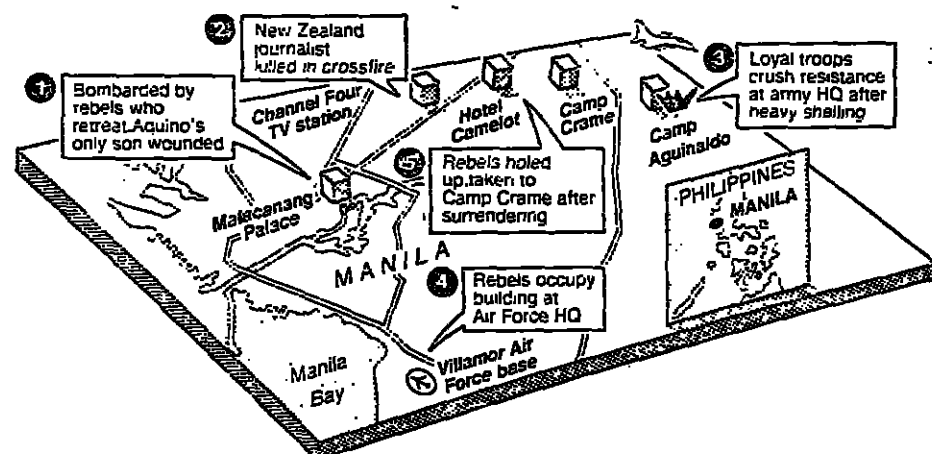
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In a statement broadcast over the armed forces' radio, he called on his "comrades in the armed forces who believe in our oath to defend the Filipino people" to join him. "This is not a military takeover," he said. "We are not after a military junta."

By 5 am London time, Mr Marcos was beginning to sound confident. He said in a US television interview that he was ready to return to power if rebel troops officers overthrew President Aquino and invited him back.

Later, he added that he believed Mrs Aquino was "in

government forces on Camp Aguinaldo began at about the same time — around noon (5 am London time). Loud explosions were heard near the camp's communications centre.

Troops smashed their armoured cars through the closed base gate and fighting broke out with rebels inside, witnesses said.

In another television broadcast, a rebel spokesman said: "We are your soldiers and we do not owe anybody our loyalty except for you, our people. We are committed to our cause. We are prepared to die, if necessary."

President Reagan said in a statement released by the US Embassy in Manila that he was "profoundly concerned" and voiced unqualified support for President Aquino.

By 6.30 am London time, casualties were put at 29 dead, including five presidential palace guards and at least one rebel, and at least 70 wounded.

The coup attempt appeared to have gained support from soldiers in at least three provinces surrounding Manila and in the city of Cebu, central Philippines.

It was not until 8.30 am London time — hours after the event — that news broke that Mr Benigno "Nonoy" Aquino, aged 25, the President's only son, had been injured. He was shot and wounded and three of his bodyguards killed as rebels ambushed his car. Although shot in the neck and twice in the body, he was said to be out of danger.

In a live television broadcast 14 hours after the coup attempt, the President, looking resolute, declared she was still in control and that she would "defeat and punish these traitors". She declared: "The assault is to continue until the rebellion is crushed. There will be no terms." Her voice trembled when she confirmed that her son had been shot.

Heavy fighting followed as government army units, firing

machine guns and howitzers, followed six armoured vehicles in an assault on two gates to Camp Aguinaldo.

The Air Force dropped at least two bombs on the camp, and scores of civilians were wounded when rebels fired rifle-launched grenades.

General Ramos said fighters strafed a transmitter tower held by the rebels, blacking out a television station they were using.

The streets of Manila shook amid in the capital's heaviest fighting since the Second World War.

Mr Rafael Iletto, the Defence Minister, said that government troops had recaptured the Channel 13 television station.

By 11 am London time, Station DZMM announced that Colonel Honasan had escaped as government forces invaded Camp Aguinaldo. The military said that about one-third of the rebels had surrendered.

Five miles away, air force helicopter gunships strafed a hotel where an estimated 100 rebels were holed up after a failed attempt to capture a government television station. Tourists were trapped inside as rebels fired at the helicopters.

By 3 pm London time, General Ramos announced that Camp Aguinaldo's general headquarters building had been recaptured, but 50 to 60 rebels were still holding out in the camp.

Rebels holed up in the Camelot Hotel began to surrender at about 4 pm London time and the Defence Minister said in a radio broadcast that the mutiny was over.

"As far as we're concerned only a handful of mutineers remain," announced Mr Iletto.

He estimated that about 800 troops took part in the coup attempt, which left at least 55 dead and more than 100 wounded.

Although it took longer than expected, the President's original confidence seemed at last to be justified.



Robert McDonald, the New Zealand journalist who died in crossfire near the Channel 4 television station.

real trouble" and doubted that the Government could survive. A US Justice Department official was said to have visited Mr Marcos and his wife, Imelda, to confirm they were still at their guarded \$3,600-a-month rented home on the outskirts of Honolulu.

By now casualties in Manila had been revised to at least 12 dead and 70 wounded.

The first counter-attack by

Bloody battle for key base

From Cecil Morella (AFP), Manila

The Philippines armed forces headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo bore many scars of the bloody battle which rocked Manila yesterday, while outside the dead and wounded were hastily evacuated.

Sirens screamed as ambulances raced across a boulevard strewn with casualties. The street separated Camp Aguinaldo from Camp Crame, where the armed forces chief, General Fidel Ramos, directed the attack against his former offices.

The war of the camps began at noon after several hundred renegade troops took refuge in Camp Aguinaldo after failing in their bid to capture the presidential palace.

The rebels, armed with rifles and supported by a few tanks, hoisted the Philippines flag on the camp's flagpole. It was hoisted upside down to signify rebellion, and the rebels issued a radio appeal for soldiers to join the revolt.

From across the street in Camp Crame, where troops had remained loyal to Mrs Aquino, artillery opened up, snapping off the tops of trees, which crashed into the Camp Aguinaldo grounds and started a fire in one wing of the armed forces headquarters.

Tanks and armoured vehicles charged the gates of the opposing fortress, while soldiers wearing flak jackets and helmets took cover behind the armoured vehicles and fired their automatic rifles.

Overhead, two planes skimmed above a column of smoke emanating from Camp Aguinaldo, raking the grounds of the camp with machine-gun fire and dropping a total of eight bombs during four passes over the fort.

But the armour and troops were initially beaten back by well-positioned rebel snipers who delivered a fusillade of rifle fire. Grenades cut down

government troops and neutral civilians.

Mortar shells crashed into the camp, one falling through the roof of a house one block from the camp. Curious civilians rushed into the field of fire.

About 100 elite Scout Rangers who had already surrendered to government troops, by that time again in control of the headquarters, were seen sitting beside one of the greens on a golf course scarred by tyre tracks.

Some of the loyal troops who followed the armoured cars into the camp branched off to flush out suspected sniper positions amid sporadic sniper fire.

The rebel Scout Rangers had not yet surrendered their weapons but instead turned the Philippines flag patches on their uniforms right side up to show that they were back in the government camp.

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Relative antics

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Aftermath of Detroit airliner crash

Relatives centre of row over antics of disaster lawyers

From Charles Bremner, New York

The grieving families of the 156 victims of the crash of Northwest Airlines Flight 255 have found themselves at the centre of an unseemly row involving the airline, lawyers, insurers and hundreds of millions of dollars.

At the heart of the squabble being fought out in the press and on television is the practice of American courts of making huge awards to disaster victims, and lawyers' rights to charge their clients a hefty share of their "winnings".

Within hours of the first news of the crash on August 16, the lawyers were flying in to Detroit searching for relatives of the dead. The "ambulance chasers", as their critics call them, scoured hotel corridors and even advertised in local newspapers.

Northwest, adopting an approach used by Delta Airlines in the last big American disaster, withheld the passenger list and brought in more than 100 special staff to establish a personal rapport with the relatives.

Delta found after the 1985 Dallas crash that by assigning a staff member to take care of and befriend each family, many were willing to accept

the airline's damage award and take no legal action.

This time the costs are potentially far higher for the airline because the evidence suggests that the crash, the second worst in US history, was caused by simple pilot error — a failure to prepare the aircraft's flaps for takeoff. The Delta crash was attributed to wind-shear. Lawyers say the award to the lone Detroit

Mr Mervin Bell, a celebrity lawyer famous for his victories on behalf of accident victims, defended his profession's tactics this week, saying they were aimed at protecting families from the airlines' insurance agents "who pop out of exhaust pipes at the scene and time of the accident". Mr Bell predicted an award of between \$1 million and \$5 million

than honourable in its handling of the Detroit aftermath. "At no point did this airline have any thought this would help with insurance settlements. That's garbage," a spokesman said. The airline was simply attempting to provide comfort to the bereaved.

A third group has also been trying to give advice in Detroit. The "legal reform" group called the Abolish Legal Tyranny (Halt) has issued a 50-page booklet advising families of their rights.

The booklet says they should accept help from the airline but beware of its secondary goal which is "to collect as much information as they can to be used when it comes to suing". But Halt also attacked the lawyers for employing scare tactics with the families.

The antics of the disaster lawyers are likely to strengthen the growing demands for reform in the rules which enable American lawyers to charge contingency fees in cases where they are certain to win substantial damages.

"The lure of big legal fees or lower insurance settlements can turn sensitive, decent professionals into mindless money-grubbers," said USA Today in an editorial.

Kansas City — The new head of the Federal Aviation Administration has urged the country's senior airline pilots to renew their commitment to "vigilance in the cockpit" against disastrous mistakes (NYT reports). On Thursday Mr Allan McArthur addressed more than 200 pilots at a meeting hastily called in response to rising public misgivings over safety and discipline in the air after 156 people died in the Northwest Airlines jet crash at Detroit on August 16.

Survivor, four-year-old Cecilia Cichan, could easily be the largest in history.

Lawyers usually charge between a third and a half of the damage award as fees, so the likely winnings for them in the Detroit crash are vast.

"Be advised that airline insurance companies will have their representatives contact you in an attempt to gain your trust," said one of the lawyers' advertisements to relatives of victims in Detroit last week. "Do not sign any documents..."

(\$600,000 to £3 million) for each dead passenger.

"Detroit is the biggest judgement centre in the world," he said. "The juries are predominantly black, and blacks historically have been miserably treated by white insurance companies."

Mr Bell and other lawyers make much of the tactics of Delta in the 1985 crash. In one court case, the airline's agents brought up a dead passenger's sexual behaviour in court.

Northwest vehemently denies that its motives are less

Syrians tackle Beirut riots



A Syrian officer using his whip to stop an angry Lebanese demonstrator in his tracks as his troops clear burning tyres from the streets of Muslim west Beirut.

As protests against hunger and poverty spread to new areas of the divided capital yesterday, rioters seized food lorries in the southern suburbs (Renter reports).

Witnesses said travellers were forced to walk to the airport one mile further south because many roads in the suburbs were closed

to traffic. "People driving along this road to catch flights are the ones with dollars," one protester said. "We will continue to block roads until we have a solution."

Protests against spiralling prices prompted by the steady fall in the value of the Lebanese pound began in Muslim west Beirut on Thursday and quickly degenerated into a riot. The pound has lost 71 per cent of its international value this year, while the cost of many consumer goods has risen 300 per cent.

Korea funeral protest stifled

From A Correspondent, Seoul

A 1,500-strong contingent of South Korean riot police yesterday broke up the funeral procession of a shipyard worker after his parents said they wanted him to have a quiet, home-town burial and not the martyr's farewell planned by radical colleagues.

Officers armed with shields and tear-gas guns forced 30 buses and a hearse to head for the town of Namwon, where Mr Lee Sok Kyu, killed last Saturday in a strikers' street protest, was to be interred.

Police apprehended about 50 of the 1,000 workers in the cortege for resisting their intervention, according to the Korean news agency Yonhap. But there was no violence, and most of the workers stayed on their buses.

Meanwhile, demonstrations honouring the dead man in six cities, including the capital Seoul, drew only a few hundred protesters, who clashed violently with police.

The funeral service for Mr Lee, who died of wounds caused by shrapnel from a tear-gas canister, began yesterday afternoon at the Daewoo Shipyards on the island of Koje, 210 miles south of Seoul. Some 15,000 workers and their families, political dissidents and company officials marched through the town behind a hearse decorated in paper and tinfoil garlands.

The mourners were carrying brightly painted banners, commemorating Mr Lee and calling for union rights. His corpse had been held as a bargaining ploy at the company hospital until a 19-day strike at the shipyard was settled on Thursday. But even as his coffin left the island, its final resting place remained in question.

Workers had wanted Mr Lee buried in a cemetery in the south-western provincial capital of Kwangju beside victims of a 1980 uprising against the regime of President Chun. But Mr Lee's family, who boycotted the shipyard ceremony, preferred to have him interred in their home town of Namwon, north of Kwangju.

As the funeral procession reached the junction of the roads leading to Namwon and Kwangju, police blocked its progress, forcing the workers to turn back and allowing Mr Lee's family to hold the traditional quiet ceremony they had requested.

In the evening, a Seoul rally commemorating the dead man failed to draw more than 2,000 demonstrators, most of whom appeared to be students rather than workers. More than 3,000 riot police were deployed to block the rally.

Meanwhile, relatives and friends of the hostages — 16 prison guards and five civilians — have been collecting signatures for a petition urging the authorities to give in on the helicopter request. "A helicopter for life," is their slogan. By yesterday afternoon they had collected about 500 signatures.

The neo-Fascist prisoner Mario Tuti, who has been in prison since 1975 serving a life sentence for several murders, has been reported to be the leader of the revolt.

The Italian state television yesterday broadcast a message to Tuti from his mother, Signora Ester Tuti, aged 73. "Mario, try to handle things in the best way possible. Act like a man, as you have always done. I don't know what to tell you except to do what your conscience tells you to do."

Disputed town bombed by Libyans

Paris (Reuters) — Chad said yesterday that Libyan planes were bombing the disputed northern town of Aouzou but reported no advance by Libyan troops.

The Libyan news agency Jana earlier reported that Libyan troops had captured Aouzou.

Briton on death charge

La Manga del Mar Menor, Spain (Reuters) — Michael Anthony Kennedy, a 28-year-old Briton, has been charged with killing a taxi driver after a drinking session in this Mediterranean beach resort.

● **PLAYER DIES:** Steve Pugh, a football player with non-league Boston FC, died after falling from a hotel balcony in Majorca.

Stowaways die

Dar-es-Salaam (AP) — Five Tanzanian stowaways were found dead in their hideaway on a Panamanian-registered ship here.

Crew released

Lagos (Reuters) — The 13 crew of an Air India Airbus, detained on Tuesday after customs officers seized packages thought to contain heroin, have been released, the Indian High Commission said.

Spying claim

Tokyo (AFP) — A high-altitude US reconnaissance plane has flown deep into North Korean air space on a spying mission, the (North) Korean Central News Agency claimed in a report monitored here.

Worker shot

Dhaka — A worker died and 20 were injured as Indian guards opened fire on a limestone quarry in north-eastern Bangladesh, near Bhologanj, bordering Assam state.

End of war

Athens — Greece has formally ended its state of war with Albania. The state of war lasted 47 years but remained largely on paper after diplomatic relations were restored in 1971.

Drugs raid

Moscow (Reuters) — Police used helicopters, motorcycles with night-vision devices and dogs to round up a gang of drug couriers in Soviet Central Asia, Tass said.

Iran envoy speaks positively on Gulf peace and hostages

From John England, Bonn

Iran was willing to take part in any "authentic" peace efforts to end its seven-year-old war with Iraq and was also helping with attempts to secure the release of two West German hostages held in Lebanon, Mr Muhammad Jawad Lariniani, the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, said in Bonn yesterday.

Iran wanted to consolidate the present *de facto* ceasefire in the Gulf, he added. But the United Nations Security Council's resolution of July 20, calling on both countries to agree to an official ceasefire, must be reshaped in a "serious and concrete" form so that peace efforts would hold the promise of success.

A West German Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that Mr Lariniani's statement on the Gulf conflict was the first indication that Iran may eventually react positively to the Security Council peace efforts.

In Tehran's view, Mr Lariniani said, this must include an exact definition of the problem in the Gulf, a just process and guarantees for the future.

Earlier, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, had pressed Mr Lariniani for a clear signal from Tehran that it would accept the ceasefire call. A Foreign Ministry spokesman later expressed optimism that Iran would eventually react positively to the resolution.

Mr Lariniani went on to

promise that Iran would continue its efforts to win freedom for two West Germans, Herr Rudolf Cordes and Herr Alfred Schmidt, who were kidnapped in Beirut last January. "We are mediating between those who are hoarding them and West Germany," he said. "It is a very sensitive situation."

"We are dealing with a problem where people's lives are involved. These hostages are very emotional and want their grievances heard. Lebanon is a no-

Beirut — The Lebanese magazine *Ash-Shiraa*, which last year revealed the secret arms deals between Iran and the US, yesterday reported that Tehran and Washington were again holding secret talks (Juan Carlos Guncio writes). Quoting unnamed sources it said that "the hostage issue will be the key to a solution desired by the Iranians that would lift the sea and land blockade imposed on it" by the US naval presence in the Gulf.

man's land, and it is very difficult to get a line of connection, to have a dialogue back and forth."

The West Germans have long been known to be in the hands of the radical, pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) organization, but Mr Lariniani's statement was the first time that an Iranian government minister or senior official had confirmed that the

two captives were being held in Lebanon.

The two were kidnapped in retaliation for the arrest at Frankfurt airport of Mr Muhammad Ali Hamadei, aged 22, Lebanese, after three bottles containing liquid explosive were found in his luggage after a flight from Lebanon. The kidnappers said that the West Germans would not be released until he was freed, but Washington also pressed Bonn to extradite Mr Hamadei to the United States to stand trial for the hijacking of a TWA airliner in 1985 and the murder of an American passenger.

The West German Government decided in June that Mr Hamadei would be tried in Frankfurt for air piracy and murder as well as for attempting to smuggle explosives into the country. The kidnappers earlier this week released a video tape of Herr Schmidt aged 47, a technician with the Siemens concern, in which he appealed to Bonn to exchange Mr Hamadei for him. But the Government has insisted that there will be no swap.

● **NEW YORK:** Iran's formal response to the UN Security Council demand for a ceasefire will be delivered next week, according to the Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, who had two meetings with the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Muhammad Jawad Lariniani, and expressed his intent to return (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

Israel nuclear secrets trial

Police act to keep Vanunu and the press apart

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

The trial of Mr Mordechai Vanunu, the former nuclear technician charged with betraying Israel's alleged nuclear secrets to *The Sunday Times* last year, opens tomorrow in the Jerusalem District Court.

Police are taking elaborate precautions to ensure that the in-camera proceedings remain just that, and that there is no contact between the defendant and the press as he is brought to and from the court.

A special wood and fabric screen has been set up at the court entrance to prevent any recurrence of an incident last year, when Mr Vanunu wrote on the palm of his hand that he had been kidnapped on a flight from London to Rome last September and brought to Israel, flashing the message to

journalists as he was led from the police van into the court.

Police sirens may also be sounded while Mr Vanunu is outside the court to prevent any possibility of him shouting a message to reporters.

Mr Vanunu's lawyer, Mr Avigdor Feldman, has applied to the court to have at least part of the trial conducted openly — a request that has so far not been granted.

The defendant, who once worked at Israel's nuclear research facility near Dimona in the Negev desert, is alleged to have sold photographs said to be of the facility, and information about Israel's nuclear programme to *The Sunday Times*. He is being charged with treason and ag-



Mr Vanunu faces charges of treason and espionage.

gravated espionage. Both offences carry a life sentence. The defence intends to challenge both the court's jurisdiction to try Mr Vanunu and the admissibility of his

confessions, because of the manner in which he was abducted abroad and brought to trial without any attempt having been made formally to extradite him from Britain, where he is alleged to have committed the offence.

The same argument was repudiated in the early 1960s when raised by Adolf Eichman, the Nazi war criminal, who was abducted by Israeli agents in Argentina and spirited to Israel to stand trial.

Should the position again be rejected by the courts, the defence intends to call on a principle established at the Nuremberg Nazi war crime trials, arguing that the secrecy imposed on Mr Vanunu in Dimona was a manifestly illegal order which he was, by law, obliged to disobey.

It will challenge the legality of Israel's alleged nuclear programme on the grounds that, unlike most other countries which have atomic arsenals, the country refuses to submit itself to international inspection and steadfastly refuses to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The defence plans to call internationally-renowned academics from overseas to demonstrate that Mr Vanunu's ideas on the need to publish Israel's alleged nuclear capacity are neither far-fetched nor immoral.

The trial will thus revolve largely, from the defence's point of view, around the universal moral dilemma of nuclear weapons — an issue it would like to see thrashed out in an open hearing.

Indian troops fight war of nerves in Sri Lanka

From Michael Hamlyn, Jaffna

The first clash involving troops of the Indian Army in occupation of the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka, came this week when they broke up gangs of Sinhalese and Tamil youths hurling stones and abuse at each other in the streets of Trincomalee.

The Indians fired into the air, and the crowds melted away, but not before the story began spreading that the Indians had wounded two youths in the firing.

Brigadier E.W. Fernandes, the Goanese in charge of military-civilian liaison flew to Trincomalee to investigate, and discovered that one youth had been stabbed, while the other was hurt by a stone. No blame attached to the Indians, but it was a risky moment and shows how close the 9,000-strong Indian force can come to causing an outbreak of anti-Indian feeling.

There is a persistent fear too that the understandable resentment of the Indian arrival among young Sinhalese will spill over into the armed forces; and that, perhaps, many of the younger men in the Sri Lankan armed forces might share the opinions of Naval Rating V.V. Rohana, who clubbed Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, with his rifle as he arrived to sign the peace agreement in Colombo.

For the moment the troops are confined to their barracks, and to keep them out of mischief they are in the throes of a series of promotion examinations. "We are keeping them busy," Brigadier Jayaratne, the commander of the Sri Lankan forces in the Jaffna peninsula, explained.

Other senior officers I spoke to were concerned enough about feelings within their own forces to discuss the possibility of a military coup to take matters out of the hands of the politicians altogether. All agreed, however, that it was unlikely.

Meanwhile, the Indian troops are becoming a common sight in the bazaars and on street corners in Tamil areas. Some come from the Madras Regiment and thus can converse freely. With others sign language and pidgin English suffice.

Colombo — The Patriotic People's Movement, which Sri Lankan police believe is a front for the prescribed southern extremist group, the People's Liberation Front, has claimed responsibility in a letter for the assassination attempt on President Jayewardene and his government MPs in Parliament on August 18 (Vijitha Yapa writes).

as they browse the stalls selling saris made from imported Japanese fabrics, or make purchases in shops rapidly emptied of electronic items in short supply back home.

The economy of Jaffna has taken a leap forward since the Indians pay for what they buy in Indian rupees

which are more than twice as valuable as Sri Lankan rupees.

It is also clearly the Indian forces' policy to build up the status of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the guerrilla force that the Indian peace accord compelled to disarm. No one believes that the Tigers have disarmed, though the spokesmen for the movement insist that they have.

"They have not surrendered their personal weapons," Brigadier Jayaratne said firmly.

But according to Colonel T.P.S. Brar, a clean-shaven Sikh who has taken over command of Jaffna Fort, "they are super chaps, and this is a super place".

Colonel Brar called on the Tigers' Jaffna headquarters outside the military grounds, "best to keep in touch", and when the Indian colonel in charge of Velvetthurai further north went to sort out a community problem he took with him a truckload of Tigers driven by "Soozai",

the regional commander who led the rebels' defence of the area under the steam-hammer assault of Sri Lanka's "Operation Liberation".

The Indian forces have not taken over policing of the areas they occupy, even though the Tigers have given up any attempt to provide their own police force, and the Sri Lankan Government has still not managed to install an official constabulary.

It is a lack noted by the local inhabitants who complain that petty thefts are growing unchecked. During this week's religious festival at the Nallur Temple gangs of youths were reported to have indulged in chain snatching.

The Sri Lankans still regard the Indians with some nervousness, even though they are welcomed by the Tamils as saviours. People recalled what was said to have been the behaviour of the troops in Bangladesh after the liberation struggle there. Allegations of rape and molestation were widespread.

Elba rebels denied escape

From A Correspondent, Rome

Government negotiators at the Porto Azzurro Prison on the island of Elba, where six armed inmates are holding 21 people hostage in the infirmary, say there is no possibility "at least for the moment" of providing the rebels with an escape helicopter. They have also renewed their request for a "goodwill gesture".

The negotiators have been asking for the release of the only woman among the hostages, 29-year-old social worker Signora Rossella Giazzi, and last night sent her a rose as a sign of encouragement. So far the rebel inmates have ignored the request.

But tensions inside the prison seem to have eased. The rebel inmates, all serving life sentences or the equivalent, are now said to be convinced that the Government will not use force as long as the hostages are unharmed.

On Friday morning the Justice Ministry's Director of Prisons, Signor Nicola Amato, visited the prison and spoke by telephone for about an hour to Signor Cosimo Giordano, the prison warden, who is one of the hostages. Afterwards, Signor Amato said he had told Signor Giordano that the Government had reconfirmed that its policy was one of "firmness aimed at pacification".

The three magistrates conducting the negotiations said that the inmates had renewed their demands for a helicopter to fly them off the island to an unspecified destination, but had altered some of the "logistical" details.

In an interview with the local radio station one of the three, Signor Antonio Costanzo, said: "There are no possibilities for the rebels to get the helicopter, at least as things stand now".

Signor Costanzo said he hoped the outcome of the siege would be "peaceful and bloodless" and said the Government would not use force "except in the case of absolute necessity". But, he said, "should this necessity arise, we will be ready for it".

Meanwhile, relatives and friends of the hostages — 16 prison guards and five civilians — have been collecting signatures for a petition urging the authorities to give in on the helicopter request. "A helicopter for life," is their slogan. By yesterday afternoon they had collected about 500 signatures.

The neo-Fascist prisoner Mario Tuti, who has been in prison since 1975 serving a life sentence for several murders, has been reported to be the leader of the revolt.

The Italian state television yesterday broadcast a message to Tuti from his mother, Signora Ester Tuti, aged 73. "Mario, try to handle things in the best way possible. Act like a man, as you have always done. I don't know what to tell you except to do what your conscience tells you to do."

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BACK TO BARRACKS

Mrs Cory Aquino, the President of the Philippines, appears safely to have survived her fifth coup attempt since coming to power 18 months ago. This time, however, events have taken a rather more serious turn than on previous occasions, both in terms of the bloodshed involved and in the scale of the rebellion, which included provincial centres as well as the capital. Since the majority of the armed forces must have been expected to remain loyal to Mrs Aquino, there was little chance of the rebels succeeding in actually overthrowing the government. But they have certainly succeeded in shaking confidence in Manila.

The head of the Philippine army, General Ramos, who has so far proved impervious to the necessity of handing out stiff punishments to rebellious colonels, should now do just that. The leader of the current rebellion, Colonel Grigorio Honasan, had already been involved in one minor coup attempt; to leave him and other known army troublemakers unpunished is simply to court further trouble.

At issue is the removal of the army from politics. After the heady days of effecting the downfall of ex-President Marcos too many military men have yet to concede that their role should be kept to military matters. Some of the previous coup attempts, it is true, have been made by officers who would like to see the return of Marcos. But the rest, including this one, stem from the belief that civilians are making a mess of things and the country would be better off without them, possibly under a government with Juan Ponce Enrile, the former defence minister, at its head. The trigger for this week's events was no doubt the wave of strikes and demonstrations following

the announcement of a rise in fuel prices.

If the charge of incompetence is to be countered, Mrs Aquino and her newly-elected Congress will need to take decisive action in a number of areas. These centre on further economic reforms, major agrarian reform and the resolution of both the Muslim and communist insurgency problems. The government's failure to take a tough line with the communists has been particularly irksome to right-wing elements of the army.

On the credit side, Mrs Aquino has proved adept at handling the various crises which have beset her since she acquired power. She has succeeded in instituting a new constitution and in successfully promoting her own candidates during the recent congressional elections. She has also succeeded, so far, in maintaining a high level of popular enthusiasm for her administration, no doubt still benefiting in this respect from the memory of the years of Marcos excess.

She has the loyalty of most of the army — as yesterday's events displayed — and has the clear support of the West. Both President Reagan and the European Community were quick to send messages of support as her government gained the upper hand yesterday.

What Mrs Aquino has not so far demonstrated is an ability to formulate effective policy. Whether she and her Congress can achieve this during coming months will decide whether the army can be persuaded to stay out of politics for good. In the short term, suitable punishment of the offenders may put a stop to the rash of coup attempts, but in the longer term a display of firm and decisive control at the top will be needed to keep the colonels in their barracks.

A NEW SEASON

The party conference season is upon us already. The invention of the SDP in 1981 meant a new opening to it. Ever since, the conference season — like the soccer season — has seemed to start earlier and earlier, becoming one more traditional sign that the fleeting British summer is all but over.

The SDP's proposed merger with the Liberals, because it would mean one party fewer, should logically mean one conference fewer. But we doubt it. There remains the spectre of the Owenite, anti-merger "Independent Social Democrats". However small or large their numbers prove to be, Independent Social Democrats sound the sort of people who will want a conference all their own.

The expectation has grown up, then, that a political party should be capable of providing a conference. Most politicians would rather that were not so. A minority of politicians think otherwise. They are the "conference stars". Most, however, are not conference stars. They sympathize with Balfour, who said he would rather listen to the opinion of his valet than that of the Conservative Party conference.

There is also the opinion of the late Tom Driby, admittedly a far less respectable figure than either Balfour or his valet. The year he was voted off the Labour National Executive — election to which is announced to the conference — he said the one consolation was that he would never have to set foot in Blackpool again.

Nor, on the whole, has there been much profit in being a conference star. The speeches which make you a star arouse different emotions among Cabinet and shadow cabinet colleagues — envy, contempt, scorn, patronizing amusement, at worst a determination that that man must never be allowed to lead the party.

Mr Heseltine's speech enraptured the Conservative conference year after year for over a decade. But he carried that tendency to self-display into the rather more important forum of the Cabinet, his theatrical departure from which he now has so much leisure to repent. In contrast, Mr Nigel Lawson, who over the years has taken so little trouble to interest the conference (though he made a much greater effort last year) is one of the three or four most influential Chancellors since the war.

Lord Hailsham was the conference's choice for new Prime Minister when Macmillan fell ill on the eve of Blackpool, 1963. At a fringe meeting he made himself available by renouncing his encumbering peerage to general acclamation. At the Young Conservatives' ball, he danced the then revolutionary new step: the Twist. Such a man seemed unstoppable. Next week, back in London, less colourful colleagues made sure he was stopped.

FOURTH LEADER

It will be generally agreed that our world is already amply provided with things that scare the living daylight out of us. But recent news from the United States suggests that this view is not quite unanimous; a firm there, under the pretence of making items to improve home life, has added a new terror to mail-order.

Are you so startled by the alarm-clock that you have been desperately seeking a gentler way of being woken up? (No, actually, but let that pass.) Well, you can now buy an alarm which makes no sound, but shakes your bed. Ignoring for the moment the people who live near the San Andreas Fault and who would inevitably conclude that their last hour had come, what would most of us think if, as morning crept on, a giant invisible hand started to throw our bed around the room? Even the least imaginative sleeper would feel sure that the green wickerwork men had arrived at last. What is a jangling bell compared to that?

Nor is that all. The same firm will provide you with a recorded message that not only tells you to wake up (presumably you can have it in the breezy "Show-a-leg" mode or the snarling "Get-up-you-lazy-bound" style), but goes on to intone the list of your appointments, and ends by telling you to have a nice day.

And don't think they have forgotten the little fellow in the nursery. Suppose he wakes up and

Nor does popularity at the conference automatically confer influence. For nearly two decades R.A. Butler was the most influential single Tory in the country apart from successive party leaders. The conference detested him, and he it. Aneurin Bevan was the Labour conference hero of the 1950s. But his famous speech to it in 1957, in which he embraced nuclear deterrence, was an abandoning of the conference in favour of the Westminster front bench — an acceptance that this was where power in the Labour Party then lay.

Mr Tony Benn was the Bevan of the Labour conference in the 1970s and early 1980s. But the leadership was won by only a would-be Bevan, or pretend-Bevan — Mr Kinnock. Here, however, any theory that party conferences are entirely powerless breaks down. Bevan struggled in vain against the right-wing Labour leadership, and finally had to make his peace with it because the Parliamentary Labour Party alone elected the leader and decided policy.

By Mr Kinnock's day, the increased power of the left ensured that Labour constituency parties — whose arena the conference is — had won votes in the leadership election. Their support was therefore worth having. By gaining enough of it, Mr Kinnock became leader — something he could never have done under the previous franchise. The story of this year's Labour conference will be the story of Mr Kinnock's attempts to weaken the left who created him.

Last year the Liberal Assembly, by voting unilateralist, used another power which conferences have: to entangle parties in policies which the leadership may not adopt but which can ruin them with the voters. This year, however, the Liberals will be not much concerned about policies. They, and the Social Democrats, will solely be concerned with one another.

And the Tories? Their leader is the true architect of this year's conference season. With her victory on June 11 she is embroiling Mr Kinnock with his left by forcing him into an opportunistic attempt to abandon anything socialist. She is detaching her most formidable rival, Dr Owen, from any recognizable political party. She is tempting Mr Steel to in turn tempt Mr Kinnock into a Lib-Lab electoral pact which may lead to Mr Kinnock's destruction by the left once and for all.

Like Ozymandias, she invites her opponents to look upon her works, ye mighty, and despair. But Shelley's ruler, like most rulers, fell in the end. So the succession to this one will be the real story of this year's Tory conference — though possibly of many more Tory conferences after that too.

begins to cry. A voice-activated mechanism starts to rock the cradle and simultaneously emits music. Moreover, if you have elected to take the whole package at a reduced rate, you will by now have also installed a telephone which does not ring, but quacks.

You get the picture? In the main bedroom you are being shaken, not stirred, and disembodied voices are urging you to go and see your accountant at once. Over your head, the screams of your innocent child as he is rocked by no apparent human agency are multiplied by the cacophony of the music that is supposed to send him to sleep. Downstairs, your home has been invaded by a flock of mad ducks. You stagger into the bathroom in the hope of finding a bottle of some kind of oblivion, and accidentally tread on the scales; another harsh voice announces your weight, and — as if that wasn't enough — audibly compares it to the previous reading. Chaos is come again.

It is unlikely that there will be a substantial sale of these items in Britain, where most of us are content with an ordinary alarm-clock, hand-operated babies, bathroom scales which have learnt discretion, and a non-ornithological telephone. We all know that the price of progress can be too high. What we did not suspect until now is that it can also be too loud.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Are motorway journeys necessary?

From Dr G. L. Huxley

Sir, In a letter about the M40 motorway (August 26) Sir Robert Booth claims that the additional cost of £4 million cannot be a serious argument against building three instead of two lanes in each direction near Banbury.

In the costing of trunk roads and motorways the sum may not seem large; but if the Department of Transport were considering an expenditure on a railway the sum would be treated as very large indeed — the amount would, for example, secure the future of the threatened main line from Settle Junction to Carlisle, yet closure of the route is seriously being contemplated.

Sir Robert admits that immediately a new motorway is opened traffic volumes exceed design forecasts; and it should be evident by now that continuous building of motorways does not of itself provide a solution to the problem of congestion in inland transport.

Quite apart from damage to the country near Banbury, the building of the M40 prompts many questions about the current philosophy of inland transport. Here are three:

1. Why was the beautifully engineered and high capacity Great Central main line, on a route close to that of the M1, shut in 1966 in spite of reasoned protests?
2. If the M40 is to have six lanes near Banbury, should not tolls be imposed on the motorway, since measures to relieve road congestion should be paid for additionally by those who cause the congestion?
3. Sir Robert writes from Solihull. A fine railway runs near his house from Birmingham to Banbury. What are industrialists in the West

Midlands doing to ensure that the line is being used to capacity for freight and passenger traffic?

Yours faithfully,
G. L. HUXLEY,
Forge Cottage,
Church Enstone, Oxfordshire,
August 26.

From Mr Bruce Oliver
Sir, Sir Robert Booth's comments are as predictable as they are regrettable. Such is the extent to which we are indoctrinated that the needs of road transport must be satisfied at all costs that the sheer folly of the policy is obscured. Mr Bottomley's apparent restraint in the case of the M40 comes as a welcome surprise.

As Sir Robert himself seems to admit, the M25 has not exactly solved any problems. Indeed it has achieved what all such schemes seem so easily to achieve, viz. the invitation to even more vehicles to enter the system, until yet another saturation point is reached. It is a case of the "beast" being quiet whilst it is being fed, but demanding more and more as it grows bigger.

When will the Department of Transport and local authorities exhibit the courage to reverse the trend? Until they do so, town and country alike will continue to be viewed from the position of the road vehicle and its demands rather than that of the individual and the environment. Indeed it will certainly take courage, as such education may initially be costly in votes.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE OLIVER,
York House,
59 Chelsea Road,
Southsea, Hampshire,
August 26.

Centre party debate

From Lord and Lady Kennet

Sir, The debate within the centre parties about their future relationship should be seen in a wider context. This country is no longer a democracy in the sense that other Western countries are; there is no other where candidates for one national party need nine times as many votes to get into Parliament as candidates from another party.

The nearest figure is Canada, where it is three to one. The US is 12 to one, and in Germany, Holland and Sweden candidates of all parties need the same number of votes. This is a national disgrace, and could reasonably affect our position in Nato, and the alliance of democracies.

As Mrs Thatcher removes more and more of the Conservative Party leadership from her Government, her "friends" become a smaller and smaller minority within the minority which the Conservative Party already is in the country.

Britain's "elective dictatorship", as one of her expellees called it, becomes of increasing concern to all parties. Mr Heseltine and Mr Brittan are very

Family courts

From Mrs Sarah Curtis

Sir, It was good to read Lord Hailsham giving his support for a family court in your column (article, August 20). In one important respect, however, he damages the cause he now espouses.

He claims that enthusiasts for a family court are determined that there must be new buildings for it. There is no organisation today unrealistically demanding separate piles of bricks and mortar. Most supporters of a family court

want no more than what Lord Hailsham advocates: hand-picked, specially trained judges, lay members, lawyers and welfare officers.

As for buildings, some would even be prepared for a family court to operate from any suitable public building and after normal working hours in order to be more accessible to the people who need its services.

Yours faithfully,
SARAH CURTIS,
9 Essex Villas, W8,
August 20.

Ever open door

From Mrs Pamela Lloyd-Hart

Sir, Justice takes no holiday in the Citizens Advice Bureau here, despite the suggestion to the contrary in your Legal and Financial article (August 22). We do take on business as usual throughout the summer, the staff shortage may mean a long wait for advice, but no more so than at any other time of the year.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA LLOYD-HART
(Bureau Manager),
Citizens Advice Bureau,
Royal Courts of Justice,
Strand, WC2,
August 23.

Better place

From Mr Charles Halliday

Sir, Philip Howard's article (August 24) on Scottish tombstones reminded me of an epitaph I came across last year in a remote and overgrown churchyard in Argyll. A much respected local minister, when he died, was presumed to have gone to a place

... Where congregations ne'er break up

And Sabbaths never end.
Yours faithfully,
CHARLES HALLIDAY,
North Esk Lodge,
Musselburgh, Midlothian,
August 25.

Second-hand letters

From Dr Paul Marett

Sir, Perhaps it could also be remembered that "p.p." does not mean "for" but "by proxy" and should immediately precede the name of the person who actually signs.

I have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
PAUL MARETT,
Loughborough University,
Department of Library and Information Studies,
Loughborough, Leicestershire,
August 26.

Better deal under way in prison

From the Governor of HM Prison, Bristol

Sir, In your editorial, "Not by walls alone" (August 22), you mention the uncertainty about the purpose of imprisonment today — and I would agree that in recent years the prison service has lost its way. However, we are improving. In the past we have neglected our best asset — the people who work in our prisons, and prison officers in particular.

The present reorganisation in our service will free prison officers from the chains of overtime, and encourage them to take initiative and responsibility — and here at Bristol this is already happening, with startling results. Positive and well-motivated people are essential in any prison for us to fulfil our purpose, which is the custody, control and care of prisoners.

We are beginning to provide reasonable facilities — properly decorated and furnished cells, proper issues of kit, and so on. We are also providing constructive activity to keep prisoners occupied, to get them out of their cells

as often as we can, and if possible to get them thinking about their future too.

In return for good treatment and conditions, and constructive activity, we are entitled to expect from prisoners good behaviour and co-operation, a clean and tidy personal appearance and cell, and reasonable effort at work or other activity.

In the meantime, while the Home Secretary and others struggle with the overall problems of prison overcrowding, how about a little cheer for everyone in the prison service (and the co-operative and well-behaved prisoners too), for actually looking after 50,000 prisoners in overcrowded and often primitive conditions with, on the whole, few major problems.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN,
Governor,
HM Prison,
Cambridge Road,
Hartfield, Bristol,
August 25.

Ukrainians in UK

From Lord Chelwood

Sir, Tom Bower (articles, August 20-21) seems to accept unquestioningly the views of the Soviet Government about the unfortunate Ukrainians and Balts in the Rimini camp and entirely rejects those of the British Government.

I can confirm the accuracy of Hector McNeill's answer to the ridiculous charge so irresponsibly passed on by Crossman that all the 8,000 Ukrainians in Rimini were "blood-thirsty cut-throats". In his answer McNeill denied this and said that "cross-sections" of the Ukrainians had been screened at various times "without any war criminals being revealed".

Tom Bower dismisses this with the words "that, of course, was completely untrue since the Russians were convinced that the Ukrainians had committed atrocities..." (my italics).

While Fitzroy Maclean was in Italy early in 1947 I spent a whole month as the only Tory member of a committee of three MPs appointed by the government to study the displaced persons problem on the spot. We visited 35 DP camps in the British zones in Germany and Austria, in which there were some 25,000 Ukrainians, and were much impressed by the careful selective screening of the Ukrainians and others in response to every vague and often wild Soviet charge of committing war crimes or "atrocities". Similar government orders were carried out in the Italian camps.

I find Tom Bower's articles unpersuasive.
Yours sincerely,
CHELWOOD,
Plovers Meadow,
Blackboys,
Nr Uckfield, East Sussex.

Conversion courses

From Mr D. A. W. Taylor

Sir, On July 7, 1986, you published my letter commenting on a proposal to set up "conversion courses" for 18-plus school-leavers who wished to study for an engineering degree but lacked the required entry and foundation qualifications. At that time I drew attention to the long-established existing conversion courses within the university system for exactly the need of such students.

Your readers will now see in the press a wide promotion for a system of conversion courses that has been just set up in broadly the polytechnic sector and which are a duplication of existing courses within the university system. These Hitecs (higher introductory technology and engineering conversion courses) are funded and promoted at substantial extra cost to the taxpayer and also are supported by a great structure that is apparently not means-tested on parental incomes in the way of usual mandatory grants for the support of students.

I would welcome a public explanation for this expensive duplication and also for the uneven-handed treatment of grants for the support of students to the detriment of the university system.

Yours sincerely,
D. A. W. TAYLOR,
The University of Sheffield,
Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Mappin Street,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

weaker vessel? Can't we speed the parting guest, dine not wisely but too well, hold out an olive branch?

Have we, through Mrs Malthouse's tender mercies, reached a psychological moment at which she is to tell us, more in sorrow than in anger, that all these are locations which we must leave severely alone? So be it, through thick and thin, but I can just see how much thinner my own writing is going to look.

Yours sincerely,
C. H. ROLPH,
Rushton Edge,
Rushton Common, Bramley,
Guildford, Surrey,
August 21.

From Mr Oliver Troughton
Sir, Or, now that hopefully this correspondence is drawing to a close, are there any sighs of relief that are not heaved?
Yours faithfully,
O. TROUGHTON,
Wylde Green,
Carlton Road,
Pontefract, West Yorkshire,
August 19.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 29 1839

The architect of the Eglinton Tournament was Archibald William Montgomery, 13th Earl of Eglinton (1812-61). The jousting and pageantry at the castle created considerable sensation; its cost was estimated at between £30,000 and £40,000. Lady Seymour (afterwards the Duchess of Somerset), played the leading role as the queen of beauty.

THE TOURNAMENT.

(From the Glasgow Constitution.)

Finding we were not likely to obtain any information regarding that all-engrossing subject, the Tournament, by remaining in Glasgow, we put our limbs in motion on Wednesday, and by the assistance of a little horse and steam power found ourselves in a few hours amidst the bustle and preparation in Eglinton Park. The day was splendid, and a hearty wish that that day eight days might prove equally fine was universally expressed by all present. The first object that arrests attention near the castle, which is a very stately building, is the immense extent of a wooden pavilion in progress of erection, to be used as a dining and ball room. This great house is situated immediately behind the castle, and is in the whole 325 feet long; 168 feet to be occupied as the ball room, 136 as the dining room, with a saloon in the centre of 20 feet. The whole is to be covered with canvass, made to resemble marquee, the interior being decorated in the most splendid manner possible, and hung with rich chandeliers. From the billiard room of the castle, the great window of which is to be levelled with the floor of the building, the company will walk into the dining room, and the deception will be so complete that no one, unless they knew, would ever suspect but these gorgeous halls were a part and parcel of the castle itself. Five hundred persons will dine in this temporary room with ease. Proceeding onwards, and across a beautiful cast from bridge over the Lugton, you at once perceive the serpentine walls laid off as the route of the knights and their train from the castle to the tilting ground, where a line of splendid galleries are already erected. As some slight errors appear to have been made in an account we lately copied into this paper, we may again state the space inside the huss is 650 feet long and 250 wide; the barrier in the centre, for tilting, being 300 feet long and 4 feet 6 inches in height. The grand stand is a most conspicuous object, carved and gilt in beautiful Grecian style in front, many of the decorative gildings having been used at the late coronation of Her Majesty in Westminster Abbey. In the front and centre of this gorgeous stand, which will contain about 700 persons, is a splendid seat for the Queen of Love and Beauty, who, it is still said, is to be the Lady Seymour. This stand will be one of the greatest attractions of the occasion, it being confidently anticipated that such a display of noble dames and noble men as will there congregate has never before been seen together in Scotland. On each side of this grand stand are two smaller ones, to hold 600 persons each; and the noble earl, on account of the immense number of applications, has just given orders for another, to accommodate 1,000 persons.

From this it may be seen that those who will occupy the stands must be a very limited number indeed, not above four or five thousand at the most, while we should be surprised, if the weather prove fine, to find sixty or eighty thousand persons on the lawn. Whether all these will be able to witness the various manoeuvres on the tilting ground is very problematical; but the whole of them may see the procession of knights from the Castle, which we should conceive to be the most picturesque part of the display, passing over, as they must do, about three-quarters of a mile, amidst aged oaks and other noble trees... We think it right also to inform the public, that neither dogs nor smoking will be allowed on the grounds...

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE
August 29: Lady Jean Rankin has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fernoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Birthdays

TODAY: Sir Richard Attenborough, actor, producer and director, 64; Mrs Dorothy Carter, energy consultant, 59; Mr Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 56; Alderman Dame Mary Donaldson, former Lord Mayor of London, 66; Sir Nigel Foulkes, former chairman, Civil Aviation Authority, 68; Mr Elliott Gould, actor, 49; Professor Denis Hay, historian, 72; Mr Lenny Henry, comedian, 29; Mr James Hunt, racing driver, 40; Mr M.J. Hussey, chairman, Board of Governors of the BBC, 64; Lord King of Warrimoor, 69; Lord Brain, 61; Sir Patrick Brannigan, QC, former Attorney-General, 60; Sir Keith Bright, chairman, London Regional Transport, 56; Sir Charles Burman, former chairman, Tarmac, 79; Mr Alan Davis, actor, 74; Mr Kenneth Gill, trades unionist, 60; Dr A.B. Gilmour, director, NSERC, 59; Mr M.R. Harcourt, company director, 67; Mr Denis Healey, CH, MP, 70; Rear-Admiral John Howson, 79; Lord Keith of Castleacre, 71; Sir Desmond Lee, former president, Hughes Aircraft, 73; Sir Peter Parker, former chairman, British Railways Board, 63; Sir Henry Phillips, former Colonial administrator, 73; Richard Stone, economist, 74; Professor J.M. Thoday, geneticist, 71; the Very Rev Professor T.F. Torrance, theologian, 74; Sir Philip Woodfield, civil servant, 64.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: John Locke, philosopher, 1632; Oliver Wendell Holmes, physician and writer, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1809; John Leach, illustrator, London, 1817; Maurice Maeterlinck, poet, Ghent, 1862; Jean Ingres, painter, Montauban, France, 1800; Ingrid Bergman, Stockholm, 1915.

DEATHS: John Lilburne, republican, 1657; Ken 1657; Edmond Hoyle, "father of whist", London, 1769; Sir Charles Napier, general, Portsmouth, 1853; Brigham Young, 2nd president of the Mormon Church, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1877.

Tomorrow's royal engagement

The Princess Royal, President of the Federation Equestre Internationale, will attend the European Jumping Championship, St Gallen, Switzerland.

Bridge

The results of the final evening session of the ten-day summer congress of the English Bridge Union taking place at the Torquay Leisure Centre were as follows:

Mixed Pairs Championship: 1, H Harding (North East), Mrs S Rankin (Jersey); 2, Mr & Mrs L C Bell (Devon); 3, E Latham, Mrs J Ayre (Yorkshire); 4, Mr & Mrs W Williams (Middlesex); 5, Mr & Mrs P Williams (North West); 6, Mr & Mrs G Kenyon (Yorkshire); 7, Mr & Mrs D A Kime (Herts); 8, L Cornish, Mrs M Mapplebeck (Devon); 9, Mrs G King, J Hunt (Middlesex).

Science report

Flourishing underground

By Andrew Wiseman

Scientists from the US Department of Energy have discovered that bacteria can flourish much deeper underground than was previously thought possible, a finding that could lead to their use as "biological barriers" capable of safeguarding water supplies.

Marriages

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Berglund and Miss J.A. Grayson. The engagement is announced between Stefan, son of Mr and Mrs B. Berglund, of Laxa, Sweden, and Janet, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.M. Grayson, of Malvern, Worcestershire. The marriage will take place in Dubai on December 3.

Marriages

Mr W.J.G. Boarder and Miss F.P. Sanders. The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Leslie Boarder, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, and Frances, daughter of Mr John Sanders and the late Mrs Naomi Sanders, of Farnham, Surrey.

Marriages

Mr A.N. Frost and Miss K.A. Hurley. The engagement is announced between Andrew Neil, only son of Mr and Mrs A. Frost, of Sale, Cheshire, and Karen Ann, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs T.J. Hurley, also of Sale, Cheshire.

Marriages

Mr M. Homewood and Dr E. Turner. The forthcoming marriage is announced between Michael, son of Ian and Ruth Homewood, of Canberra, Australia, and Kathy, daughter of Ian and Betty Turner, of Adderbury, Oxfordshire.

Marriages

Mr M.D. Goddard and Miss V.M. Robinson. The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Major General and Mrs J.D. Goddard, of Fleet, Hampshire, and Victoria, elder daughter of the late Malcolm Robinson and of Mrs C. Newman, of Alkerton, Oxfordshire.

Marriages

Mr J.L.N. Wilson and Miss C.M. Lankester. The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mrs Marjorie A. Clark, of Abbotsford Court, Edinburgh, and the late William B.N. Wilson, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D.E. Lankester, of Long Ditton, Surrey, and the late Mr John A. Lankester.

Marriages

Mr J.A. Styllall and Miss J.C.E. Cowe. The engagement is announced between John, elder son of the late Mr Kenneth Styllall and Mrs Audrey Styllall, of Yateley, Hampshire, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.G. Collin Cowe, of Chadlington, Oxfordshire.

Marriages

Mr N.D.A. Bell and Miss A. Azimi. The marriage took place on Wednesday August 26 between Mr Neil Drummond Andrew Bell, youngest son of the late Major A.O. Bell, MBE, and of Mrs Bell, and Miss A. Azimi, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs M.H. Azimi.

Marriages

Mr M.D. Goddard and Miss V.M. Robinson. The marriage took place on Friday, August 21, at Chelsea Old Church, of Mr William George Touche, eldest son of Sir Anthony and Lady Touche, of Stane House, Ockley, Surrey, and Miss Elizabeth Louise Bridges, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Allen Bridges, of Lyford Cay, Nassau, Bahamas.

Marriages

Why keep God out of politics?

Peter Knott SJ

Christians belong to all parties and none. This country has no political party which claims the title Christian. Any such claim implies that our Christianity must make us all think alike on political issues which is not the case; it also implies that the other political parties are un-Christian.

Where people are guided by the teaching of Christ they vote for the party they believe will best work for a balance of relationships in which the interest of each element of the community is given its due place - the powerful and the weak, the well-to-do and the poor, the home-born, and the foreigner, the land, the environment. This is what Christians expect from Government.

It is important to remember that the poor and voiceless are not to be found in any one class or section of modern society. Nor is it economics alone that makes them voiceless. Those who have won positions of power and security have also won a share of responsibility for the well-being of those powerless to secure it for themselves.

Past inertia of the Church in the social field in some parts of the world has caused her to be identified with the interests of the rich; and in consequence without credibility in the eyes of the poor. The reverse can happen just as easily if the Church identifies her concern with a political party professing to uphold the interests of the poor and reject the rich. Past mistakes in this matter will not be righted by their repetition in the opposite direction.

Although the gospel provides no blueprint for any particular form of society, it certainly urges us to create a just society. No Christian can be indifferent to suffering.

The political process is all part and parcel of the task of co-operating with God in laying the foundations of his kingdom in human history. Christianity and politics address themselves to different realities but meet in the human person to be balanced according to man's final and relative ends.

Christian faith and practice provide a framework of common shared experience with shared forms of expression that can bind together people who are separated from one another in other ways - by social status, occupation, and so on. Christianity is not a religion of solitude. Salvation is social.

Christianity is a faith for living which is both realistic in its attitude to daily life and human history, and at the same time ultimately optimistic. It is a faith that gives meaning and purpose to life in this world and beyond it. It is about Love in action - the response of human love evoked by the Love of God which broke into history in Christ, and our response to the image of that Love in human beings.

The Christian revelation is not simply a statement but an act. God in Christ entered the world's pain, ignorance, and evil, and by encountering, confronting, and enduring that evil defeated it in the only way in which evil can be defeated.

The only power greater than evil is love which is prepared to give itself unconditionally. Christ shows us what God is and what man can be.

Although Christians see the meaning of this world as to be fulfilled beyond the horizon of death, they do not despise techniques for better living here and now.

The grace of God is no more a convenient substitute for human effort than human ingenuity is a substitute for the grace of God. Left entirely to our own resources we achieve nothing of enduring value. But if we allow the spirit of God to work freely in us, we shall make more, not less effort, and be satisfied with nothing less than the best techniques.

The Christian faith truly lived is a source of power for coping with the deepest problems of life: putting no trust in oneself but putting our whole trust in Christ who works in us.

While the Christian faith insists on the importance of our obligation to live as well as we can in this world, it does not limit our destiny to this world. For this reason Christianity can carry as over worldly disappointment, failure, and suffering as no purely "this-worldly" values can do. Given loyalty to Christ everything else is brought into perspective.

Liberated from seeing the things of this world as an end in themselves the Christian is free for that very reason more effective in dealing with the affairs of this world. He will not be inhibited by fears about comfort, safety, or reputation. This liberation can come only through acceptance of Christ and unconditional loyalty. The means are there, if we will use them, for making our faith stronger and our response more active.

There are good things in life. There are bad things too. But the ultimate things must not be forgotten. Politics negating the spiritual nature of man are incomplete. Religion neglecting social needs is sterile. The divine imperative to love God and our neighbour as ourselves makes the dividing line between religion and politics less obvious than might at first appear.

The issue is not "Why bring God into politics?" but "Why keep God out of politics?" Man does not live by bread alone.

Father Peter Knott, SJ, is Roman Catholic Chaplain to Eton College.



Tuning in: Mr Christopher Price with part of his collection of more than 100 wireless sets at his home in Fillongley, near Coventry. Mr Price, a retired farmer, restores the sets and gives charity shows called "The golden age of radio". His prize exhibit is a 1924 crystal set which cost £115s (£1.75) when it was new (Photograph: Philip Dunn)

Science report

Flourishing underground

By Andrew Wiseman

Scientists from the US Department of Energy have discovered that bacteria can flourish much deeper underground than was previously thought possible, a finding that could lead to their use as "biological barriers" capable of safeguarding water supplies.

Until recently microbiologists had concentrated their research mainly on bacteria down to about 165 feet, believing this to be the limit for the active life of microbial communities.

However, worried that they knew very little about the existence and behaviour of various micro-organisms below the surface of the earth, the American scientists decided to initiate the USA's first serious national effort to probe the microbiology of deep underground environments.

The tests were carried out in the Savannah River area, in

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JOHN HUSTON

Distinctive force in American cinema

John Huston, the American film director, actor and writer, died yesterday in Newport, Rhode Island. He was 81.

He was one of the most talented film makers of his generation and a major force in world cinema for more than 40 years. Yet his work was uneven and difficult to label though even his poorest films had a distinctive stamp, he resisted categorisation as an "auteur" in the European sense of a self-conscious artist pursuing consistent themes and ideas.

He fought a long and often acrimonious battle with the Hollywood studio system, yet arguably some of his finest films were made within its confines, and the freedom which he later won to set up more personal and ambitious projects often led to worse films, not better.

It may be too soon to attempt a final assessment of a man whose films had a habit of being dismissed by critics on their first release, only to emerge as classics ten or 15 years later.

Huston's own personality provided similar contradictions. He was popularly depicted as a sort of Hemingway figure - the hard-drinking, hard-gambling, hell-raising adventurer - and the portrait was by no means false. At the same time, he was a man who read widely and thought deeply about the world and his work, and as a film-maker he could encompass Freud as well as Humphrey Bogart.

He was born on August 5, 1906, at Nevada, Missouri, the son of the character actor, Walter Huston, and a journalist, Rhea Gore, whose passions for travel and horses he inherited. Huston Senior was to win an Oscar under John's direction in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

His parents divorced when he was six and he spent an unsettled childhood, punctuated by a spell in a sanatorium with chest trouble, and had little formal education.

At 18 he won the amateur lightweight boxing championship of California; he gained a commission in the Mexican cavalry; he went to New York to try his hand at journalism, short story writing and film scripts; he was a painter in Paris and a screenwriter with Gaumont British in London.

The period of wandering ended in 1938 when Warner Brothers in Hollywood took him on as a script writer. The result was a notable string of credits, including *The Amazing Dr Clitterhouse*, *Jessie*, *Dr Ehrlich's Magic Bullet*, *Sergeant York* and *High Sierra*; and he continued to write many of his own scripts after he graduated to direction in 1941.

Huston's *The Maltese Falcon* remains one of the outstanding debuts of cinema history, though it was, strangely enough, the third time that Dashiell Hammett's story had been filmed and Huston had to beg the studio to allow him to make it. The film was immaculately cast: Humphrey Bogart as the hard-nosed private dick, Sam Spade, Mary Astor, Peter Lorre and, making his first film at the age of 61, the outside British-born actor, Sidney Greenstreet.

Huston's attempt to repeat the formula with some of the same actors in *Across the Pacific* was less successful, and after making a competent Bette Davis vehicle in *This Our Life*, he joined a United States Army film unit. He made several outstanding war documentaries of which the best known are *The Battle of San Pietro*, depicting the battle for an Italian hill town, and *Let There Be Light*, which treated the problem of shell-shock so graphically that the army refused to show it.

After the war, he returned to Hollywood to work on the scripts of *Three Strangers* and the Hemingway story, *The Killers*, and then directed *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, the story of three down and out men played by Walter Huston, Bogart and Tim Holt - lusting for gold and being

cheated. Huston collected Oscars for both his direction and his script, thus completing a unique family rebirth.

Key Largo, the Maxwell Anderson play about gangsters hiding in Florida, was realized with a cast of Bogart, Lauren Bacall and Edward G. Robinson, but a more personal film was *We Were Strangers*, a political "message" story set in Cuba in the 1920s.

There followed one of Huston's best films, *The Asphalt Jungle*, a gangster piece which forsook the conventional action scenes in favour of atmosphere and characterisation in a story of a meticulously planned jewel robbery which goes gradually wrong as each participant sows the seed of his own downfall.

Huston was obsessed with the idea of filming Stephen Crane's novel of the American Civil War, *The Red Badge of Courage*, and, despite the slowness of the plot and his insistence - not for the first or last time - on casting from unknown actors, the project was accepted by MGM.

But as the film went into production there developed a classic battle between art and commerce (described by Lillian Ross in her celebrated book *Picture*) which left both combatants on the losing side. Huston failed to prevent the picture from being savagely cut and altered and the studio failed to get its money back at the box office. It was six years before Huston worked in Hollywood again.

His next picture was one of the biggest commercial successes: *The African Queen*, set mainly on an East African riverboat with superlative - and apparently improvised - performances from Bogart as a hard-drinking skipper and Katharine Hepburn as a spinster missionary.

Moulin Rouge, a life of Toulouse-Lautrec, failed despite some interesting colour photography, after which Huston re-united Bogart and Lorne, with Robert Morley essaying the Greenstreet character, in a sort of parodied *Maltese Falcon* called *Beat the Devil*.

In 1956 Huston took on what many considered to be an impossible film subject, Herman Melville's sea allegory, *Moby Dick*; it was a brave stab but ultimately unsuccessful, though Huston's passion for the "big" subject was not to be cooled.

For his next picture he returned to Hollywood and the result was a nicely-realized comedy, *Heaven Knows*, Mr Allison. Subsequent American projects were less happy: Huston left the Hemingway adaptation, *A Farewell to Arms*, after a row with the producer, Selznick, and *The Barbarian and the Geisha*, a Japanese piece with John Wayne, was probably his worst film.

Back in Europe, Huston directed another big, ambitious picture, *The Roots of Heaven*, with an international cast none too well harmonised and plenty of scope for allegory in an idealist's bid to preserve the elephant from big game hunters. His next three films also promised more than they achieved but all have impressive moments.

The Unforgiven was the director's first Western, though Huston characteristically used the genre for wider comment about racism. *The Misfits*, with screenplay

by Arthur Miller, had an outstanding sequence of a mustang round-up and was the last film in which Clark Gable and Marilyn Monroe appeared. *Friend*, with Montgomery Clift in the title role, was heavily cut on its initial release but looked a much more substantial work when the full version was subsequently shown on television.

In the early 1960s Huston's career seemed to lose momentum and there followed a string of films which were not only undistinguished artistically but did poorly at the box office. *Night of the Iguana* was a competent adaptation from Tennessee Williams; *The List of Adrian Messenger*, a slight but entertaining whodunnit; and *The Bible* a dreary plot through Genesis, culminated only by Huston's own performance as Noah.

Reflections in a Golden Eye was better, though another experiment with colour went for nothing when the distributors did not release the original print. Two costume pictures, *Sinful Davey* and *A Walk with Love and Death* in which Huston cast his daughter, Anjelica, in the leading role, did nothing to stop the slide, while *The Kremlin Letter* was a return to the thriller country which Huston had invaded more profitably before.

Then, in 1972, Huston's reputation revived dramatically with *Fat City*, a study of two struggling boxers; it was a "small" subject, perfectly executed and as fine as anything he had done. There were other distinguished films during the 1970s: *The Man Who Would Be King*, a Kipling story set in 19th century India, and *Wise Blood*, based on the novel by Flannery O'Connor and charting the bleak journey of a latter-day antichrist in the American South.

In between, though, *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean*, showed Huston as his most indulgent, while *The Mackintosh Man*, made in Britain, was a disappointing spy thriller.

By 1980 Huston, at 74, could claim to be the oldest American director still regularly working. In that year he made *Phobia*, a thriller set in a mental asylum, and *Escape to Victory*, shot in Hungary and dealing with a planned breakout by allied prisoners of war during a football match against their Nazi captors.

In 1982 he directed his first musical, *Annie*, from the stage hit about a little orphan girl who is befriended by a millionaire. He followed it with an adaptation of Malcolm Lowry's novel, *Under the Volcano*. His Mafia comedy, *Prizzi's Honor* (1985) was one of his best works, starring Kathleen Turner, Jack Nicholson and his daughter, Anjelica Huston, who won an Oscar for her performance. This year, though confined to a wheelchair, Huston started work on his last film, *The Dead*, from a story by James Joyce.

Huston made a brief appearance in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre* and from the 1960s was a frequent performer in his own and other directors' films, emerging as a considerable character actor: he included *The Cardinal*, *Casino Royale*, *The Bible*, *Myra Breckinridge*, *Chinatown*, *The Wind and the Lion* and *Wise Blood*.

In addition to his films, he also directed for the theatre and the opera house.

After his break with Hollywood in the early 1950s, he made a home in Ireland, buying a Georgian mansion in Galway and taking Irish citizenship. He was awarded an honorary degree by Trinity College, Dublin, in 1970. Later, he sold his Irish home and settled in Mexico.

In 1980 he published a typically uninhibited autobiography, *An Open Book*.

Huston was married five times - his first wife was the Hollywood actress, Evelyn Keyes - and had a son and a daughter.

MISS JOAN HAYTHORNE

Miss Joan Haythorne, actress, who died on August 27, at the age of 72, was recognised for her style and confidence in a number of modish West End parts, though she was by no means confined to a single type of character.

Slim and good-looking, she wore her clothes well, in or out of period, and in three or four long-running productions she showed her attractive way with the flicker of light-hearted dialogue.

She was born Joan Haythornthwaite on April 12, 1915, and educated at Eastbourne and Lausanne, where she went to the university. Her debut was on the continent before she returned to study at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art.

She had a good spell in repertory, at Manchester, Birmingham and Wolverhampton, before reaching London when she was nearly thirty.

She was Julia in Shaw's early comedy, *The Philanderer*, and Bertha in *A Trip to Scarborough* (both at the Arts), but her first sustained success was Mary in *Young Mrs Barrington* (Winter Garden 1945).

Thereafter she had some more or less routine West End parts (such comedies, very much of their time, as *Little Lambs Eat Ivy* and *Young Wives Tale*), though she was also in Shaw's *Back to Methuselah* (Arts 1947) and Lady Dering in Patrick Hastings's law court drama, *The Blind Goddess* at the Apollo.

Ensuing work proved what her training had taught her: the sour Geraldine in *His House in Order* (New 1951), Rosabel in the New York production of Christopher Fry's *Venus Observed* (1952) and, back in London, Iris in a Ben Travers farce, *Wild Horses*, at the Aldwych.

She played such further characters as Queen Elizabeth in *Mary Stewart* (Bristol Old Vic 1960), Lady Catherine in *Pride and Prejudice* (Arts 1966), and the Countess of Arlie in the long run of *Crown Matrimonial* (Haymarket) 1972.

She did a lot of films - for example, *The Feminine Touch* and *Decline and Fall*. She also appeared on television where her acting in *The Duchess of Duke Street* may be particularly recalled.

Paula Allen, born May '73. Born again, August '76.

11 years ago we started working with Paula. What she has achieved since is phenomenal. Before we can help more people with Down's Syndrome we need help from someone like you.

Help means stimulation, education and time. We can't do it alone.

It means seeing beyond the obvious characteristics of Down's Syndrome to develop the real potential of the person within. We can't do that alone either.

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☐ I want to help. ☐ I want to know more about you. Here's my donation. please send me information.

Name _____

Address _____

BIRTHS

Mr & Mrs J. A. Smith. A son, James, born August 28, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. J. Jones. A daughter, Emily, born August 27, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. K. Brown. A son, Thomas, born August 26, 1987. Weight 7lb 5oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. White. A daughter, Lucy, born August 25, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs N. O. Black. A son, Noah, born August 24, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs P. Q. Green. A daughter, Penelope, born August 23, 1987. Weight 8lb 5oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. S. Grey. A son, Robert, born August 22, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. U. Gold. A daughter, Tara, born August 21, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs V. W. Silver. A son, Victor, born August 20, 1987. Weight 7lb 8oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs X. Y. Copper. A daughter, Xenia, born August 19, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs Z. A. Iron. A son, Zachary, born August 18, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs B. C. Lead. A daughter, Barbara, born August 17, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs D. E. Tin. A son, David, born August 16, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs F. G. Platinum. A daughter, Frances, born August 15, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs H. I. Silver. A son, Henry, born August 14, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs J. K. Gold. A daughter, Julia, born August 13, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. Iron. A son, Liam, born August 12, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs N. O. Lead. A daughter, Nora, born August 11, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs P. Q. Tin. A son, Peter, born August 10, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. S. Platinum. A daughter, Rachel, born August 9, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. U. Silver. A son, Thomas, born August 8, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs V. W. Gold. A daughter, Victoria, born August 7, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs X. Y. Iron. A son, Xavier, born August 6, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs Z. A. Lead. A daughter, Zoe, born August 5, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs B. C. Tin. A son, Benjamin, born August 4, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs D. E. Platinum. A daughter, Dora, born August 3, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs F. G. Silver. A son, Felix, born August 2, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs H. I. Gold. A daughter, Hannah, born August 1, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs J. K. Iron. A son, Jacob, born July 31, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. Lead. A daughter, Leah, born July 30, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs N. O. Tin. A son, Noah, born July 29, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs P. Q. Platinum. A daughter, Penelope, born July 28, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. S. Silver. A son, Robert, born July 27, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. U. Gold. A daughter, Tara, born July 26, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs V. W. Iron. A son, Victor, born July 25, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs X. Y. Lead. A daughter, Xenia, born July 24, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs Z. A. Tin. A son, Zachary, born July 23, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs B. C. Platinum. A daughter, Barbara, born July 22, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs D. E. Silver. A son, David, born July 21, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs F. G. Gold. A daughter, Frances, born July 20, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs H. I. Iron. A son, Henry, born July 19, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs J. K. Lead. A daughter, Julia, born July 18, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. Tin. A son, Liam, born July 17, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs N. O. Platinum. A daughter, Nora, born July 16, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs P. Q. Silver. A son, Peter, born July 15, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. S. Gold. A daughter, Rachel, born July 14, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. U. Iron. A son, Thomas, born July 13, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs V. W. Lead. A daughter, Tara, born July 12, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs X. Y. Tin. A son, Victor, born July 11, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs Z. A. Platinum. A daughter, Xenia, born July 10, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs B. C. Silver. A son, Xavier, born July 9, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs D. E. Gold. A daughter, Zoe, born July 8, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs F. G. Iron. A son, Benjamin, born July 7, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs H. I. Lead. A daughter, Dora, born July 6, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs J. K. Tin. A son, David, born July 5, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. Platinum. A daughter, Frances, born July 4, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs N. O. Silver. A son, Felix, born July 3, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs P. Q. Gold. A daughter, Hannah, born July 2, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs R. S. Iron. A son, Jacob, born July 1, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs T. U. Lead. A daughter, Leah, born June 30, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs V. W. Tin. A son, Noah, born June 29, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs X. Y. Platinum. A daughter, Penelope, born June 28, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs Z. A. Silver. A son, Peter, born June 27, 1987. Weight 7lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs B. C. Gold. A daughter, Rachel, born June 26, 1987. Weight 8lb 10oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs D. E. Iron. A son, Thomas, born June 25, 1987. Weight 7lb 12oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs F. G. Lead. A daughter, Tara, born June 24, 1987. Weight 8lb 15oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs H. I. Tin. A son, Victor, born June 23, 1987. Weight 7lb 10oz. Length 18in. Head 12in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs J. K. Platinum. A daughter, Xenia, born June 22, 1987. Weight 8lb 12oz. Length 19in. Head 13in. Apgar 10. Mother and baby well.

Mr & Mrs L. M. Silver. A son, Xavier, born June 21, 1987. Weight 7

August 29 - September 4

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTSMiddle
Ages
spread

In days of old, knights were bold;
now it is computer programmers
who joust. But drama still lurks
under the ersatz medievalism,
Jonathan Meades writes

This place is a dream of the olden days, or days. Chilham definitely belongs to the olden days, which is when they wore funny clothes and wrote in Gothic script. Here's a Gothic graffiti: it reads "XVth Century Inn". Here's another: "Peacock Antiques" - that one is inscribed on a metal signboard wrought in memorial centuries back.

The building it is hung from is a Wealden half-timbered number so immaculately black and white it dazzles like an object of the Op epoch, which is also the past but not yet the olden days - the olden days were a long time back, so far back that they're heritage. And the thing with heritage (prop. English Tourist Board) is that unlike the ordinary, marketable past, no one is around now who was around



then. You can take liberties with it the way you can't with, say, the Fifties, when everyone wore drage jackets and drove cars with fins, or the Forties, when it was always raining and there was always Brylcreem on the Hovis in station cabs.

Heritage is a game, a lark, a smart alliance of the repro trade and showbiz and popular "education" which combines to package epochs into tripper-friendly displays. And yet, for all that, the emblematic spectacle elected to represent the Middle Ages in this pageant of the plastic past

is one which retains the fundamental drama and danger it must always have had. Jousting hurts - at least, the jousting done by the men in funny clothes just now riding into the tripper-crowded square at Chilham.

This jousting is conducted in an arena, a fenced field really, called "lists" by two teams called "houses". Each comprises four "knights" and has its own gaudy pavilion at either end of the lists, which are about 150 yards long. In the middle of the lists is the 50 yard fence called the "tilt" on either side of which joustiers ride at each other and between the tilt and the perimeter fence is a "quintain", a swinging target attached to a post which may represent a man (a Saracen for instance) or may simply be something to aim at. To the quintain too are attached rings: lancing the rings is just that, hoopla in reverse at a very high speed - it demands a mighty blend of eye, strength and co-ordination.

A tournament begins with two competitors riding a tilt against each other, turning and repeating the ride from the opposite ends of the lists. Then the next member of each house rides, and takes his turn (the source of that expression), and so on. A strike on a shield counts four points. This spectacle is repeated in a souped-up version in team tilts where a sort of relay is ridden with one knight setting off as soon as the preceding one has attained the far end of the tilt - so, potentially blow follows blow follows blow.

Between the bouts of jousting the quintain is ridden at, "heads" are speared, rings are lanced: two points each. Further, there are non-competitive displays of combat with staffs, with heavy swords - the idea of fencing is far in the future. Then you'll see a man in a sack being dragged around



Riding at full tilt at a joust at Chilham Castle: the 'knights' and horses unite to become fabulous and frightening beasts, works of hippic surrealism

the lists by a horse at the gallop; and here's another man sitting on the tilt and being knocked off it like a coconut by a lance.

A horse dressed for jousting is a work of hippic surrealism. Covered by a heralically devised caparison, it mutates into a beast that is fabulous and frightening: the holes for its eyes recall those in the masks of fetishistic murderers, prompting the idea of black pantomime, of wicked, circus, nightmare carnival. And this transformational potency is not restricted to the mount: a man in tabard and mail and, most of all, a helmet which is also a mask is no longer quite a man but a contiguous adjunct of the beast whose clothes march his.

There's a terrifying unity here. The quadrupedal machine that charges across this particular patch of green and pleasant along the tilt at 30mph is a caterpillar from hell - a hell in which caterpillars are fed red meat and steroids. When this thing divides itself into its components it adds up to a normal-looking horse wearing a dress and a normal-looking fellow who may be a computer programmer for Mercantile Credit, a clerk for a clearing bank, a local government officer, a teacher.

Or it may add up to a normal-looking horse in a dress and Max Diamond, whose heterodox trades in-

clude songwriter ("My Boomerang Won't Come Back"), stuntman, reader in philosophy at the University of Life, tournament director. Max lives over the Victorian stables at Chilham Castle, whose keep belongs to the period that his tournaments are meant to illustrate. "Broke my back in Cape Town, in seven places, and my skull - fractured. Next a needle between the Bank holiday," points at left shoulder - "corrosion. Let's have another spritzer." Gets up, pours same.

Beside Max in the caravan lies a copy of *The Showman's Guide 87*. Max, a showman of a generous guess - 65 years, wants to keep jousting till he has overcome the record number of jousts of William Marshall, who was at it, way back when, until he was 72 "and I'm over 42 now you know..."

What actually happens when Max and Nick and Alan and Mark (who then "went to Leatherhead yesterday to learn fire-eating") joust jolts all expectation. The business of Black Gauntlet and the rest of the knightly names is lame and bogus: suspended disbelief is a non-starter. But wiv knightly games, John, we're looking at a very different k. of f.: we're looking straight in the face of danger.

Because this is England and because the English have this thing about animals, many protestations about the lack of risk to the horses are made

over a PA on top of a Vauxhall hatchback by Mrs Max Diamond in a gold-shot frock and book-of-hours hat: "No horse has ever been injured..."

That is astonishing: for when Jerry Richardson, a 30-year-old magazine publisher from Sutton in Surrey, gets on a 16cwt nag and aims it at another ridden by Nick Billingham, a computer programmer from Maidstone,



you feel you're looking at tomorrow's dog food on the hoof. Well, you're not - and the fact that you're not is because these guys are expertly precise.

The appeal of the spectacle is not like that of wrestling (fake throws and effortful grunts); it's more like dressage done at considerable speed. And until you see you've seen a novice having a bash, you won't know how difficult and dangerous it really is. Even a minor tip can produce a tiresome injury.

The potential hazards are legion. Horses, Max Diamond

is fond of repeating, have small brains: "They can be bloody slags. They can make you look such a berk." The exigencies of the paying spectacle require that the tilt is "open", an unfilled frame that allows the crowd to see both horses at once. In the Middle Ages the tilt was a solid fence: while this suits the spectators, it does not delight the horses - which, convinced that they are going to collide, tend to shy away at the last moment, or, worse, put their brakes on. And going over a horse's head in a suit of armour is no joke.

Nor is being on the receiving end of a bamboo lance: the idea is to aim for your opponent's shield, but things can go awry. The lances are, incidentally, inauthentic - but, if anything, more dangerous than the hollowed ash that used to be used.

The heads that are speared, however, are white polystyrene things from a crimpers' window; while the grandeur and theatricality of the occasion also tends to be mitigated by the non-stop banter of Max Diamond and his colleagues. The bubble of belief is punctured once a "knight" removes his helmet, is magically transformed back into a bank clerk and grabs a microphone to make a bawdy gag. Max calls to the spectators: "Any lady there who wants to come and hold my weapon... all right then hold on just wait till I get my B. R. E. F. - brief back..."

Sport that came back to life

Jousting is one of several quasi-martial activities that has its origins in Rome and was revived in northern France during the 11th century. Tournaments were associated with the kermesses of Flanders, Brabant and so on, and were considered foreign in this country. The word tournament itself derives from *tournoi*, the action of turning a horse to re-enter the lists after a charge.

By the end of the 12th century jousts had become naturalized and by the end of the 13th were so popular that the Crown's hold on the granting of licences to run tournaments had slipped and it was made a capital offence to organize an unlicensed one.

They were frequently bloody events: 60 knights died at a tournament near Cologne in 1249; Sir William Montagu, whose father had died in the lists, killed his own son; Henri II of France was killed near Cambrai in 1559. This last accident signalled the beginning of the end. The spectacle had, however, reached its apogee with the Field of The Cloth of Gold in 1520 (one death). In



Medieval spectacle: engraving of a typical French tournament

the three centuries before that, with the exception of the latter part of the 15th, tournaments were held to celebrate royal

births, marriages, alliances. There were five important provincial sites: Salisbury; Wilton; Warwick; Kenilworth;

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The Jumbo
Crossword returns:
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'Now if you
get hit in
the throat
by a bamboo
lance -
almost
swallowed my
tongue
once...'

question of what amount of injury or mutilation Mr Richardson would be prepared to undergo at Wembley Stadium and what amount other riders would be prepared to inflict - though it is forbidden to injure an opponent deliberately.

The Jousting Federation of Great Britain (president and chairman: Max Diamond) takes a dim view of such misadventures and will ban members for up to a year from federation activities. No doubt these outcast knights turn rogue and join up with one of the cowboy outfits that Max Diamond repeatedly fulminates against: "Balsa wood lances - pshaw! All faked... pony clubs could do it. Now if you get hit in the throat by a bamboo lance - almost swallowed my tongue once..."

These cowboy outfits are bottom of the jousting pile, just as jousting itself is fairly near the bottom of the equestrian hierarchy - and there are few hierarchies more rigorously delineated than the one which involves the English and their horses. Jousting's cause is not much helped by the preponderance of indifferent displays, but its low rank is more determined by its contamination by showbiz, its ersatz medievalism, its occupation of a no man's land between sport and spectacle and, needless to say, the fact that it enjoys neither posh followers nor participants.

Because of the absence of continuity of tradition, jousting is bound to be bracketed as a curiosity, which is rough justice for the men who exhibit such bravery and skill. Those are the qualities on which it is founded, and they are not commonplace; the tabards, the theme-parkery, the tush about gallantry are all red herrings.

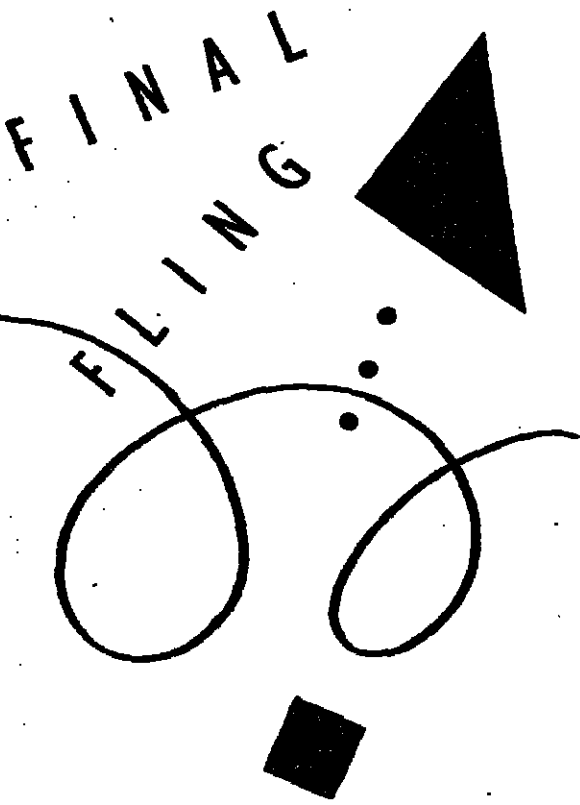
Leave Chilham Castle and you are in the landscape of Powell and Pressburger's *A Canterbury Tale*, a case history of the past's grip on the present, a grip that fosters chauvinistic perversity. They are lovely, done-up oast houses, spick as paint and really old, and the peaching you see outside the house called Robin's Croft is just the sort you don't see any more.

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Chilham is on the A252 between Canterbury and Maidstone. There are tournaments tomorrow and Monday at 2pm. Gates open at 11am. Adults £3.50, Children £1.

Harvey Nichols
Summer Sale

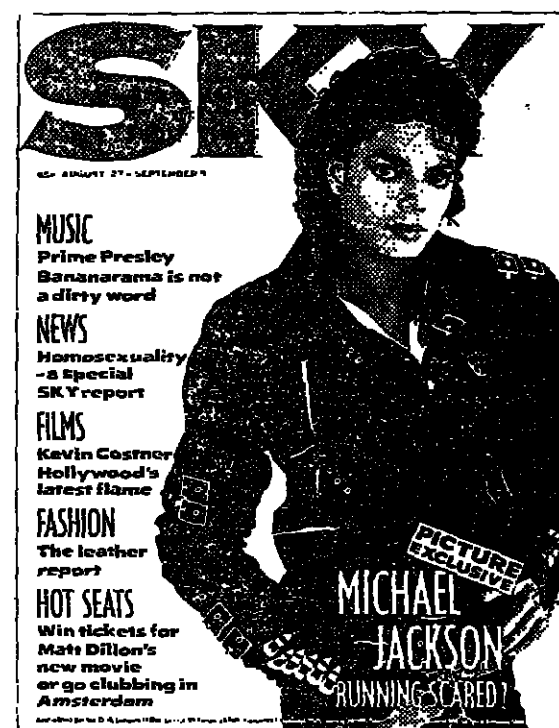
Today, from 9.30 am to 6 pm,
and Bank Holiday Monday from
10 am to 6 pm.



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NEW OPENING HOURS
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REPORT
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TRAVEL 2

The art of choosing a cruise

The key to a successful shipboard holiday, says Michael Watkins, is travelling with like-minded souls — and the Orpheus can take 275 of them around the ancient world in comfort

Heretical though it may seem, the ultimate success of a cruise should not be judged by the lure of its ports of call. The crux of the matter turns on one's fellow passengers, or, in the case of belligerent meteorology or vile cooking, one's fellow sufferers. Given the right sort of company, the ship could, so far as I am concerned, steam round and round in small circles.

Which is where Swan Hellenic Cruises have been, assuring, in accepting that although all animals are equal, some are more equal than others. Far from circumnavigating the treacherous currents of the class barrier Swan meets them head on, acknowledging the not-so-sinful condition that humankind is more comfortable with its own sort.

Who, precisely, is the archetypal Swan traveller? The son of a suffragan bishop, solicitor or soldier, he was hatched between about 1910 and 1930, finally emerging from the shell of domestic sanctity in order to attend Harrow, Highgate or Haileybury rather than Eton. At Oxbridge he rowed for his college, flirted with socialism but not communism, taking a second. He had a good war commission into a reputable county regiment or the Guards, after which he became a surgeon, barrister, publisher or returned to Balliol as a fellow. Occasionally seen at Lords, you would not spot him at Royal Ascot or Annabel's, certainly never on a grouse moor, except in an ornithological role.

Sartorially, he is unaware; his suits are 35 years old, tailored from durable and totally inconspicuous stuff. His wrist-watch has also lasted 35 years, as indeed has his marriage, both still going strong. In other words he is a Thoroughly Decent Sort.

Having touched on the contents of the cruise (approximately 275 passengers to a ship's com-

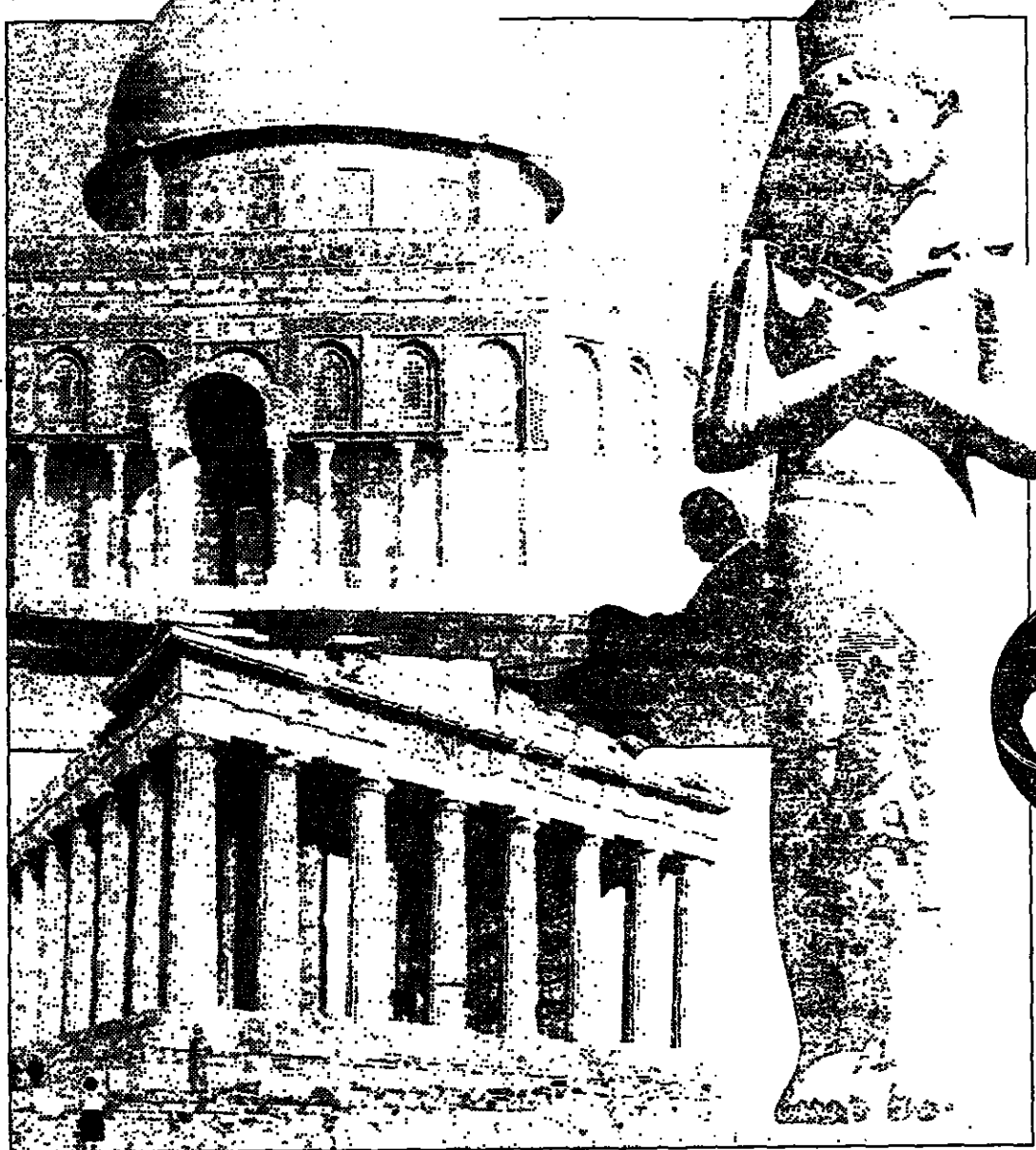
plement), let us graduate to the container. Built in 1948 by Harland-Wolfe, the MTS (motor twin screw) Orpheus weighs in at 4,810 tonnes, a bit skimpy when you think that the QE2 tips the scales at 67,139. She is comfortable, lived-in. Let me put it this way: lacking the anonymous perfection of the Ritz Carlton, the good ship Orpheus resembles more an aquatic family pension one has loved and trusted for years despite the creaky bed-springs.

A word about entertainment: there is none. Not, at least, in the terminology of cabaret, talent competitions and cha-cha lessons. There is a classical library, chess, bridge; there are lectures, usually three a day, advertised as "Palestine and the Jews in Old Testament Times, by Professor The Reverend Canon Dennis Nineham", "Karnak — Sanctuary of Amun, by Dr Reynold Higgins", and other edifying topics. For exercise there is shuffleboard and a bathing pool marginally larger than a soup tureen.

There is also conversation, and in this dimension Swan excels. Most ships allocate table seating to passengers when they join, so that in the span of 15 days' cruising you would share the same table companions, the same conversation for 45 meals, which could cause brain damage. Swan operates free seating, the head steward placing you on arrival in the Dionysos Restaurant. After dinner there is a little reckless fox-trotting to the ship's band.

That's about it. Except, of course, for the secondary consideration of the cruise itself: for the Orpheus did not engage in sailing round in circles; she covered 2,449 nautical miles, about which I scribbled a few notes.

Day Two: Dr Higgins's lecture on "Perspective" — when and by whom was BC and AD invented? Not on Christmas Day Year Zero, surely? Our own Venerable Bede caught on pretty fast. Asked for details concerning history at her



Sights for the sore eyes of Orpheus voyagers: (clockwise from top left) the Dome on the Rock, Jerusalem; statue of Ramses II at Luxor in Egypt; and the Parthenon in Athens

meeting with Solomon (the more intimate details of which Mrs Mary Whitehouse would disapprove), the Queen of Sheba reported: "The half was not disclosed." Force 10 gales between Piraeus and Patmos. Everyone sick. Puffy haul to Monastery of St John or Patmos, worth it for view. Book of Revelation clearly states that it was written here (Rev I: IX). Tradition declares scene of revelation was cave on road between port and monastery. Visited cave, sense of holiness diluted by mandatory coffee-shop.

Day Three: Rhodes — rarely have I witnessed 275 passengers decanted so efficiently. Marvellous city walls. Infirmary ward in Hospital of Knights Hospitallers divided into aisles by seven central octagonal pillars. Superb! Palace of Grand Masters, rebuilt by Italians in 1912-ish keeping to character of 16th century, as atmospheric as a laundrette.

Day Five: Port Said always a dump, remains a dump, gully-gully men not allowed aboard. Suez Canal miles of damn-all on either side.

Day Six: Park Orpheus at Sharm el Sheikh. Three-hour drive across Sinai desert. Blessed emptiness. Army check-point sign: "Egypt Piece and War". Site of St Catherine's Monastery where the God of the Book of Exodus revealed himself through the Burning Bush. AD 537 Justinian ordered Stephanos to build at foot of Gebel Musa. Bush still there, needs dusting.

Fascinated by charnel house: stuffed to ceiling with monks' bones — legs, arms, skulls — stacked in rows like vintage claret. One old party, semi-intact in habit, mouldering before our eyes.

Day Seven: Safage — overnight trip to Luxor, Karnak, Valley of Kings. My sixth visit, never disenchanted. Local hotel food unvaryingly disgusting. Luxor postscript: much diarrhoea aboard Orpheus.

Day Nine: Aqaba — two hours' drive to Nabatean Petra. Rode through the cleft for the second time in 12 months for that most spectacular sight of the Treasury I admire so hugely. Though less so than my admiration of the Charge of the Light Brigade — mounted for the first time in 70 years.

Day Twelve: Ashdod — Jerusalem 1½ hours. Swimmers do the sights: Dome of the Rock, Wailing Wall, Dead Sea Scrolls, lunch at Hotel Thingy. Breaking step I knocked on the door of 18 Marmillah, that of my friend Itzik Yaacovy, archaeological director of Jerusalem's restoration programme. Shows me what he's been digging up since our last meeting, then we eat at usual place off Via Dolorosa — hummus, pitta bread, kebab, sharing same plate. Itzik is the only numbered man I know: B11057 is his number, tattooed on his left wrist when he was 13 at Auschwitz.

Day Fifteen: Kusadasi — for Ephesus. Theatre holds 24,000, that's grandeur; but grandeur with traces of delicacy, a softening.

Day Sixteen: Piraeus again. Why do ships always disembark before you've comfortably got breakfast down? Only want to see three exhibits at Athens National Museum: Schliemann's so-called mask of Agamemnon, the Poseidon bronze and, in room 32, bronze horse and negro jockey. Enough is sometimes almost too much. We all climbed to the Parthenon then, sniffed the ochre Athenian smog, flapped our wings and flew back to London town.



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TRAVEL NOTES

Swan Hellenic, 77 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1PP (01-831 1515). Average cost for 14-night cruise, sharing outside double cabin, £1,746 per person. All excursions included except overnight Luxor and Athens.

A Single Gloucester for two

Somewhere between Shaftesbury Avenue and Shakespeare country, freshly-baked bread and a bottle of champagne await weary city folk looking for a weekend escape

The hungry young swallows chirruped in their crowded nest in the beams above our heads while their mother darted in and out of the sunshine, fetching breakfast morsels.

We were preparing our own repast on the garden table, surrounded by foxgloves and hollyhocks, when Michael Blanchard tapped on the cottage door, bearing a loaf still warm from his famous oven.

It was Wimbledon Saturday, and Martina would be



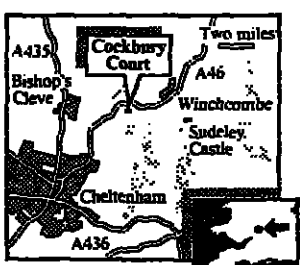
Cottage industry: Mike and Pat Blanchard prepare a culinary welcome to Cockbury Court

defending her title in a few hours. We faced no such challenges. The Malvern Hills shimmered in the heat, the covers were coming off the swimming pool.

This taste of life in a country cottage had begun at dusk the previous evening. The white garden gate creaked welcomingly, the key turned easily in the old lock, and London suddenly seemed much more than 100 miles and a two-hour drive away.

What Michael Blanchard offers, apart from home-made bread, is an escape into the heart of England. He bought Cockbury Court, a secluded cluster of cottages five miles north of Cheltenham, ten years ago and transformed them into a new concept in self-catering, applying the skills he gained as a hotelier.

The cottages have names like Badger's Mount, Honey-suckle and Mole End. The Tythe Barn has a four-poster bed and ancient timbers. A welcoming hamper yields cold



chicken with tarragon, banana cake, and Single Gloucester cheese. The fridge conceals a bottle of champagne for those who have something more than mere escape to celebrate. If need be, there will be logs in the fireplace.

Michael and his wife live in the converted farmhouse a stroll away from the cottages, and he will readily pull up a chair and tell you which local

TRAVEL NOTES

Cockbury Court Cottages, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire GL54 4AD (024257 4153). For two persons, any two nights from now till the end of October will cost £80 plus VAT including the hamper, champagne and morning newspapers. The cost for four people is £132 plus VAT. Between November 1 and March 31 (apart from Christmas, and Cheltenham Gold Cup week) the cost is £72 for two, £112 for four.

pubs to try and which to leave alone, where the best ploughman's lunch is to be had, and that you should book for dinner at the Corner Cup-board two miles down the hill in Winchcombe.

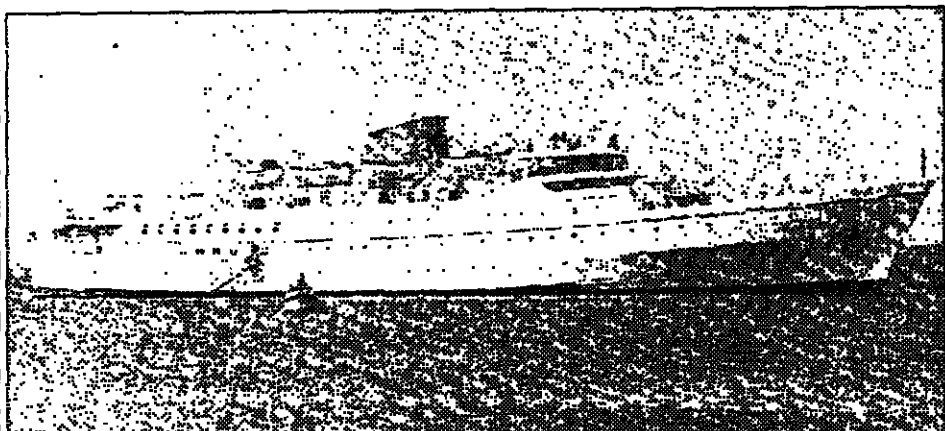
Winchcombe was the 8th-century domain of King Kenulf. The abbey he built was knocked down by Henry VIII, but the village survived him, as did Catherine Parr, the last of the six wives, who moved after Henry's death to Sudeley Castle, half a mile across the meadow.

Stratford-upon-Avon is 25 gently winding miles further on, and every crossroads has a fingerpost pointing towards another piece of history.

Americans come here to seek such pleasures and treasures, or to hunt in old churchyards for the gnarled roof of a family tree. For many of them, a cottage is a breathing space between Shaftesbury Avenue and Shakespeare.

For weary city folk like us, it was a place to make ourselves at home.

Thomson Prentice



Shipping out in style: Swan Hellenic's cruise ship the Orpheus awaits the prizewinners

Travel competition

Whether you are interested in history, mythology, archaeology, the Bible lands, or simply sitting back in the autumn sunshine, Swan Hellenic's 14-day cruise to Yugoslavia, Greece, Israel, Cyprus and Turkey, from October 28 to November 11, promises a fascinating journey. A cruise for two on this inclusive tour, worth £1,583 per person, is being offered to the winner of our Times-Swan Hellenic competition. Answer correctly the eight questions below and the cruise could be yours.

The trip starts at Gatwick with a flight to Dubrovnik.

The cruise, aboard Orpheus, begins in Graz and goes on to: Corfu, Katakolo (to visit Olympia), Ashdod (for Jerusalem), Haifa (for Nazareth), Capernaum and the Sea of Galilee, Limassol (for Curium and Paphos), Antalya (for Perge and Aspendos), Fethiye (for Telmessos and Xanthos), Kusadasi (for Ephesus), Delos-Tinos, Piraeus (for Athens and the Temple of Poseidon), Volos (for Mount Pilon), and Thessaloniki, returning by air to Gatwick.

The cruise includes all meals, excursions, travel to and from Gatwick Airport and

lectures on board Orpheus. The questions — literary, topographical, and mythological — relate to some of the destinations of the prize cruise. This will be awarded to the sender of the first correct solution opened, or, failing a correct solution, to the entry with the greatest number of correct answers. Write your answers on the coupon and send it to Cruise Competition, 11 Whitelands Street, London EC8B 1AR to arrive by Monday September 7. The winner will be announced in the travel pages of *The Times* on Saturday September 19.

1 Corfu Who described Corfu as: "A very clean and rather attractive town. It reminded me of Brighton." Orwell said of this wit that his driving forces were snobbery and Catholicism: "One cannot really be a Catholic and grown-up."

2 Olympia Who was the oldest sedentary member of Olympia, whom Strabo said was out of proportion, giving the impression that if he stood up he would raise the roof? Caligula wanted to decapitate him and substitute his own head.

3 Knossos What Quaker bibliophile, Europeanized from New Jersey, wrote: "Knossos is of course immensely interesting historically, but it is all on a small scale and gives no aesthetic pleasure, and Evans is repainting and reconstructing it in a gaudy style of bad taste which gives it something of the look of his hideous house on Boar's Hill?"

4 Jerusalem Who wrote: "One's first impression of Jerusalem is extremely interesting, but certainly not pleasing"? The author was a traveller, Alpinist, archaeologist, wit, and the first undergraduate of Lady Margaret Hall to get a First in Modern History.

5 Nazareth Who was sent in the sixth month unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, and as a result became a popular model?

6 Ephesus What famous Ephesian made the observation "You can't step twice in the same river," and what was the local river in which he would have made this Heath Robinson experiment?

7 Delos Who were the first children born on Delos?

8 Volos If you want to climb the steep ascent to Heaven by way of Mount Pilon, what do you have to climb first?

Send your entries to: Cruise Competition, 11 Whitelands Street, London EC8B 1AR, to arrive not later than Monday Sept 7. Employees of News International plc and Swan Hellenic are not eligible to enter.

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Style-conscious gadgetry has hit London's accessory shops with a vengeance. One of the latest desk-top designer toys to come from Japan is the Tech-Fast multi-functional fragrance fan (a few drops of Chanel might soften the atmosphere of any male-dominated board meeting) which comes complete with compass, thermometer, flashing light, clock with digital liquid crystal display and mirror. This

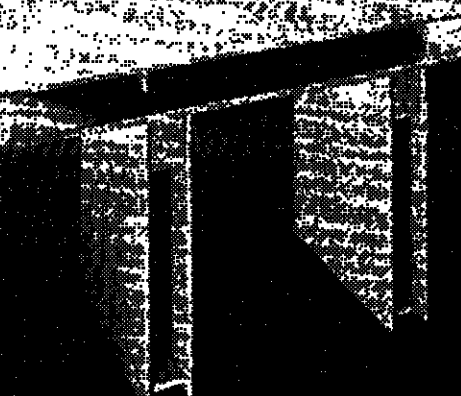
NEWS LINES

available from F.F.W.D., Ltd., Newburgh Street, London W7 (tel. 01-439 0091). More tech-wizardry at F.F.W.D. comes in the shape of the Water Watch. This battery-free digital timepiece runs for up to two weeks on a splash of water flicked into three tiny holes along the side, and shows the month and date in hours, minutes and seconds. It costs £19.85.


Highway Code warning signs feature in a variety of unusual hoardings for teenage bedrooms and are made, like the real thing, from reflective aluminium mounted on a timber frame. They cost £75 each and non-standard designs, including names or initials, can also be ordered from the manufacturer, P & B Macleod, Cheshire SK10 4HE.

Lone travellers and anyone seeking additional home security may feel reassured by a new lightweight alarm clock which incorporates a detachable burglar alarm. Designed to be placed by an inward opening window or door (even a car door), the alarm makes a continuous noise which steadily increases in volume. It is made by Citizen and is available from leading jewellers at £35.95. Another security device, called the Guard Dog, plugs into any power point near a main window or front door. When triggered by noise, it emits one to two minutes' genuine English bulldog barking. However, despite its audible warning, it is a deterrent, not a deterrent, not a non-burgling noises have also been found to activate the device. It costs £39.95 from any branches of Rymsor or by mail order (please add £2.50 p.p.p. from Rymsor Electrical Ltd 34-41 White Lion Street London N1.

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This Design Council-approved desk is made by Philip St Pier in heavy-duty medium density fibreboard, and hand finished with cherrywood veneers. The drawers are solid wood, with handmade dovetail joints, and there's plenty of storage space under the worktop and between the pedestals. It costs £720 plus VAT. Order from Sweet L.A. 11-12 Dover Street, London W1 (01-493 2356)




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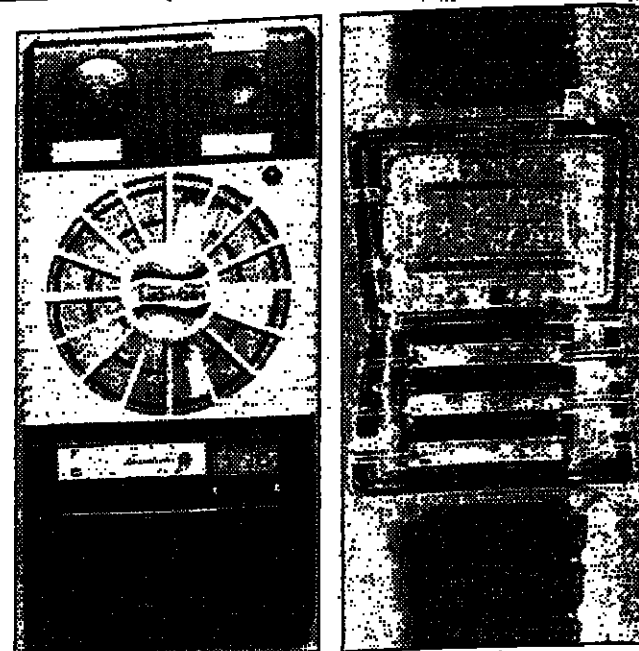
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evidence at an exhibition to be held at Covent Garden's Endell Street Place. The exhibition, which begins on Tuesday and runs until September 26, will feature a wide range of techniques and materials, including rugs, hats and scarves in mohair and wool, woodblocks and etchings, patchwork quilts and cushions, hand-tanned hide-framed mirrors and clocks, and hand-worked wooden photo frames. All items are for sale and, during the period of the exhibition, there will be weaving demonstrations and liver bread tastings. Endell Street Place is at 27-29 Endell Street, London WC2.

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Anyone wanting an introduction to the pleasures of shopping in the metropolis might appreciate a copy of *The Luxury Shopping Guide to London*, by *Nicholas Courtney*, published next week by *Weidenfeld & Nicolson* (£8.95). From Carter to November – a Shaving Box with foam, razor and aftershave balm, a Travel Bag with flannel, shaver balm, bath gel, toothbrush and paste, shampoo and conditioner.

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18TH CENTURY MILITARY REVIEW AND DUSK BATTLE: Today, the British Brigade Society recreates formal parades of the year 1780, demonstrate drill, play music of the period and, at dusk, battle for possession of Dover castle. Similar event during the day at Audley End tomorrow and Alderbury, Dorset.

ENGLISH CIVIL WAR BATTLE: Hundreds of Cavaliers and Roundheads — pikemen, musketeers, cavalry and cannon — do battle. Scarborough Castle, north Yorkshire (0723 72451). Tomorrow, Mon, from noon onwards. Adult £2, child £1.

FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT: Veteran and vintage cars, vans, fire engines, buses, military and steam vehicles on a 10-acre site. RAF Police Dog Demonstration team displays every day, aerobically display tomorrow and Mon. Fair, trade stands. Refreshments and free car parking. Broad Farm, Hellingly, near Eastbourne, Sussex. Today, tomorrow, Mon 10am-5pm daily. Adult £2, child 50p.

TATTON CRAFT FAIR: Family event with craft demonstrations including pottery, patchwork, wood-turning, calligraphy and decoy duck carving (kits for sale). Also live theatre, jazz, (Sun, Mon) Morris dancers, (Sun) puppet shows, children's fairground, full catering — including barbecues — and licensed bar. Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire (0565 54822). Today, tomorrow, Mon 10am-6pm. Admission 80p, carpark £1.

From parachuting teddy bears to world championship pitchforking, the countryside is alive this holiday weekend

OUTINGS

THROCKMORTON RUSTIC REVUE: Picturesque afternoon with the theme "Our village in 1680-1680". Local inhabitants in period dress, village fête, a silver band, skittles, lotteries, Punch and Judy. Refreshments, licensed bar. Throckmorton, Pershore, Worcestershire. Today 2pm onwards. Adult 25p, child 10p.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTRY SHOW AND BUXWORTH STEAM GROUP: Huge gathering of 25-ton steam ploughing engines and their implements, displays of vintage cars, motorcycles, barn engines and other vehicles, the Barnstormers Tiger Moth Flying Circus, fairground and circus. Full refreshments and licensed bar. Hartington Moor, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Today, tomorrow, Mon. Adult £2.50, child £1, free parking.

WESTMINSTER AND LONDON HORSE SHOW: Three-day show being held for the first time this year as the successor to the Greater London Horse Show. Riders of all ages and abilities compete in more than 50 events. Also sheepdog displays, Shetland Pony Grand National and music from the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery. Hyde Park, London W1. Today, tomorrow, Mon. Free.

PUTTIN' ON THE THIRTIES: Nostalgic afternoon's entertainment for the family. Bands, including the Totally Unexpected Palm Court Orchestra, fashion show and parade (wearing 1930s clothes if you have them), Charleston and tap-dancing competitions, the dansant, circus

entertainers, 1930s-style disco, ragtime pianist and palm reader. Screening of three Marx Brothers classics. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (01 6384141). Mon noon-7.15pm. All events free except films (£2, bookable in advance).

NATIONAL TEDDY BEAR DAY: Numerous ursine events, competitions, parades, stories, displays in a beautiful 250-acre park. Normal attractions open, including full catering at the Fort Knabworth and Barns Restaurant. Rare opportunity to explore the gardens free of charge. Knabworth Park, Knabworth, Hertfordshire (0458 612661). Mon 10am-5.30pm. Admission free, carpark £1.

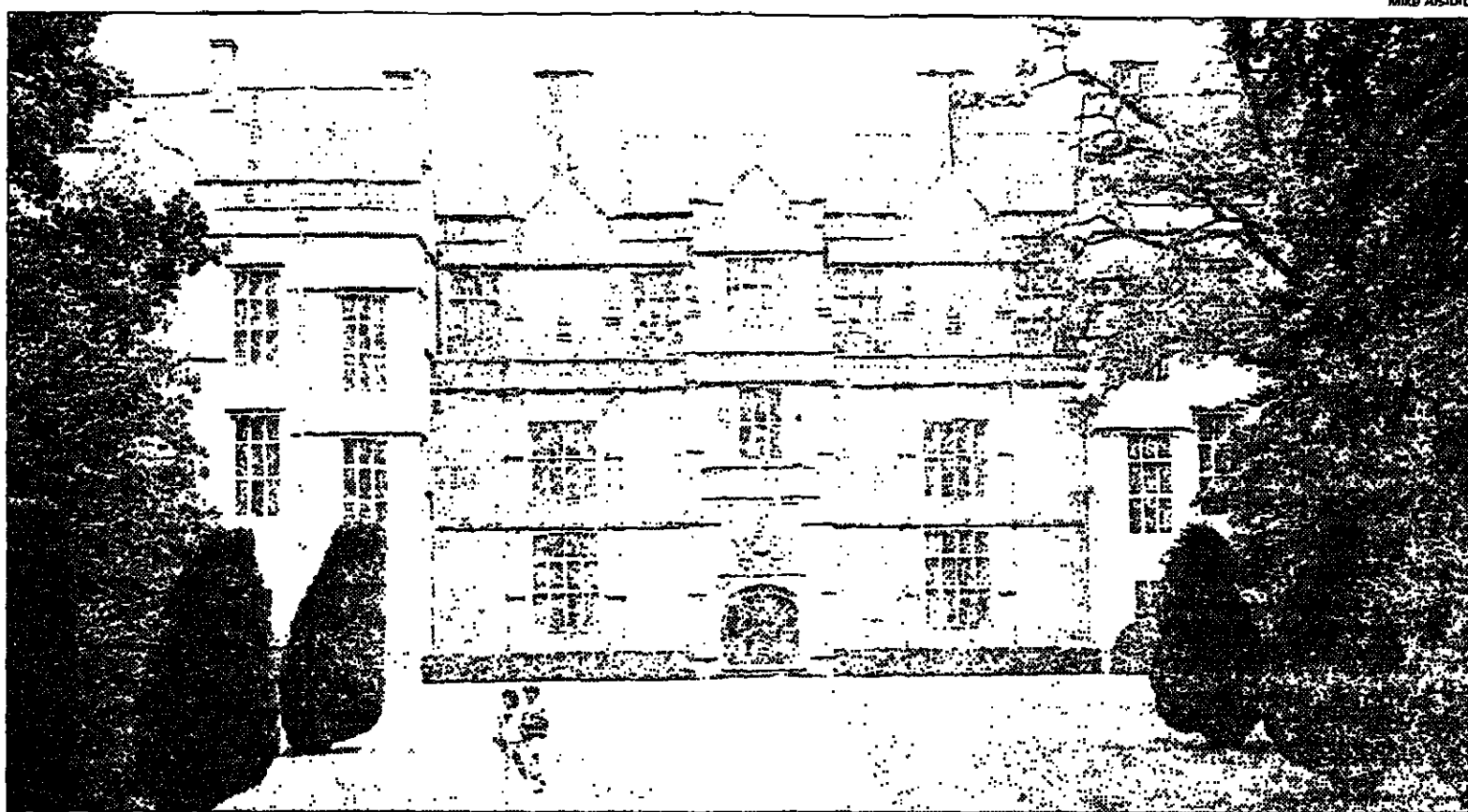
MARITIME SUNDAY: Sandcastle contests, with prizes, for various ages (9.30am-11am); Punch and Judy shows (11am-3pm); treasure hunt (11.30am-12.30pm). Opportunity for over-16s to try water-skiing, also sailing and swimming races, RNLI demonstration and exhibition of windsurfing. Eastbourne beach, East Sussex. Tomorrow, 9am onwards. Free.

PLYMOUTH NAVY DAYS: Naval base and ships open to the public. Also air, river and lawn displays, bands, exhibitions, refreshment. HM Naval Base, Plymouth, Devon (0752 555914). Today, tomorrow, Mon, 9.30am onwards. Adult £2.50, child £1. Car park £1.

BELTING FAYRE: Plenty of country attractions, displays, competitions, including the World Championship Pitchfork Contest. Whitbread Hop Farm, Beltring, Paddock Wood, Kent. Tomorrow, Mon 11am-5pm. Adult £1.50, child 75p.

GREAT WARDWICKS AIR DISPLAY: Large display of mainly vintage aircraft, plus modern jet displays, including the Red Arrows. West Malling Airfield, West Malling, Kent. Mon, gates open 8am, flying in the afternoon. Adult £5, child £2.

Judy Froshang



Poetic grandeur: Montacute, built by a wealthy lawyer on his Somerset estate to be a showpiece as well as a home, now belongs to the National Trust

Comfort in the grand manor

Nigel Andrew pays Montacute House, built during the Elizabethan era, an affectionate return visit

Seeing Montacute again after an interval of a couple of years, I was amazed by how much the place had grown. A house with such a warm, lovable personality dwindle in the imagination to something more like a homely country manor than the grand Elizabethan mansion it actually is.

Edward Phelps, the immensely wealthy lawyer who built this house on his Somerset estate, built it for show. Montacute presents to the world four great cliffs of glass and stone, lavishly embellished at the entrance side, and made to look even taller by the narrowness of the two wings and the storeyed porch. And yet the effect is not over-awing, but ravishing. After centuries of mellowing, and under a thin coating of lichen, the house's wonderfully warm honey-coloured Ham Hill stone positively glows with benevolence.

The whole design is charmingly human, with its mixture of showy foreign details and something much more domestic. An ancient English solidity undercuts all the ostentation.

"Poetic" is the word often used to describe Montacute's particular charm, and it is apt. The poetry is at its most palpable in the east courtyard, now an enclosed garden with fine herbaceous borders. The surrounding balustrade, with its rows of obelisks, echoes the fanciful skyline of the house itself. At each corner is a delightful two-storey "plaisance" or summer-house.

Inside Montacute is again endearing, in its mixture of the grand and the homely. The rooms are mostly on a rather small scale, even the Great

Hall, with its elaborate screen and heraldic glass. This glass, of which there is a good deal throughout the house, was intended to show off the Phelps pedigree.

Montacute is much as it was in Phelps's day, but for two things. The house now has its major entrance front at the west, not the east — and utterly

right it looks. An 18th century Phelps created it from the grand porch of Clifton Maybank house in Dorset (built about 1535). It is a splendid example of conservationist recycling, by which the house also got a much-needed corridor to link the rooms.

The other difference is that virtually none of Montacute's

original furniture survives. The house was presented to the National Trust in 1931 as an empty shell, after having been put on the market for £5,882 as "scrap". The Phelps family could no longer afford to live there and had been leasing it out, most famously to Lord Curzon.

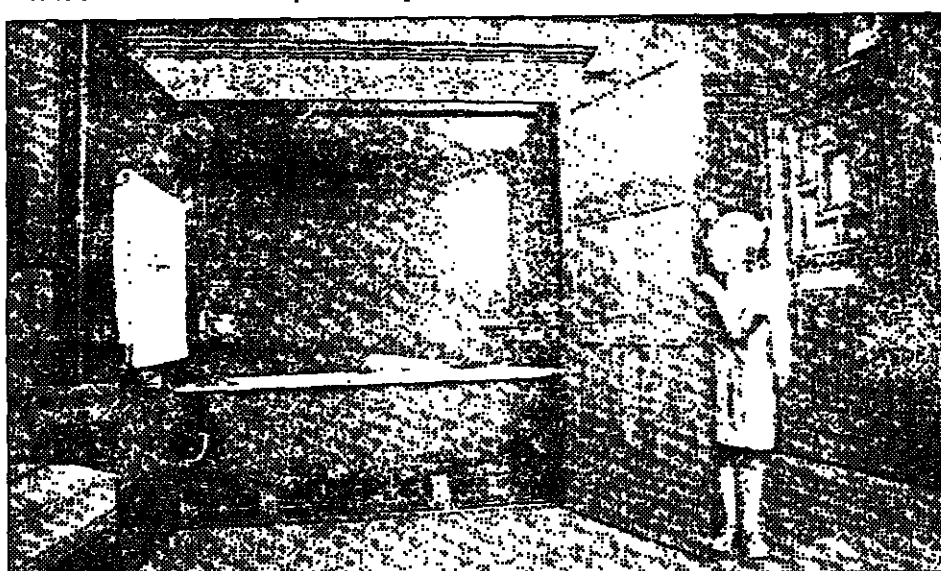
At the top of the house is

something else again — the longest surviving Long Gallery in England, all 172 feet of it, floored with wicker matting, and a sore temptation to rampaging children. This is entirely hung with Tudor and Jacobean portraits from the National Portrait Gallery — a fascinating collection, even if it largely confirms the sorry state of English painting at that time. The gallery itself has an oriel window at either end, commanding panoramic views of the surrounding country.

On your way out of the house, note Edward Phelps's portrait. What might this nonsense lawyer with the wart on his left eyebrow have built in a later age? It is most unlikely that at any other time, or in any other place, his showpiece would have evolved so completely into poetry.

The lovely stone of Ham Hill, quarried a few miles away, is in evidence throughout the picture-postcard village of Montacute. The church, with its fine Somerset tower, is a beauty. Abbey Farm, behind the church, includes the massive gatehouse of the former Abbey, and behind that is the steep little wooded hill, the Mons Acutus from which Montacute is named. Both the pubs — the King's Arms and the Phelps Arms — can be recommended. A useful little guide to the village can be bought at the King's Arms.

Montacute House, near Yeovil (0935 823289), is open till Nov 1, daily except Tues, 12.30-5.30pm. Adult £2.50, child £1.20.



Lord Curzon bathed here: the en-suite bathroom once used by the former Viceroy of India

The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword

Concise Jumbo Crossword

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Monday

ACROSS

- 1 One calling out the Fire Brigade was so terribly mendacious (7,4,4,8,4)
- 15 Reserve diamonds found in new centre (9)
- 16 Sailor's destiny to follow his officer (7)
- 17 No fast-scoring game but it could end explosively (4,5)
- 18 Largely abnormal, this reaction (7)
- 19 Dress flowers droop in the middle (7)
- 20 Reel needs changing? Bill can do without this, going faster (11)
- 22 Plays monotonously with fringes of threads (6)
- 23 An Italian painter shows Peer Gynt's Arab daimel (6)
- 25 Sort of key personnel, minimal numbers of (8,5)
- 26 The girl with a plate (7)
- 29 One pleading for replanning of corner sites (11)
- 32 Great Circle Line (7)
- 34 Sugar in honey etc, Crufts' Old English variety (8)
- 36 Emperor free to lead the dancing party (7)
- 37 Praise for Church of England praying for conversion (9)
- 41 Instrument concerning a system of logic (7)
- 42 Hearing about ambassador and doctor having three planes (9)
- 43 Putting up an architect's representation (9)
- 44 Attraction? Among Frenchmen Miss Wickfield holds it back (9)
- 46 No opening for jobs — that of doctors is spotting the outlook (9)
- 50 Signs of one communist leader in an eastern country (7)
- 51 Pupil acting so strangely, like Browning when abroad (9)
- 52 List some of our infinite miseries (7)
- 53 How a too prolific cartoonist ran into debt? (8)
- 55 Last words in a country churchyard (7)
- 58 I'd pass anyhow, holding object that fails to satisfy (11)
- 59 One out to score goals (7)
- 61 Nation bruised by ill-treatment turns rebellious (13)
- 64 Optical illusion of flier over France where... (6)
- 66 One vineyard's housing a flier who crashed (6)
- 69 Describes a figure of eight but not a beeline (11)
- 70 Highest praise for girl who's topos for a start (7)
- 72 Small ring we have to abolish, getting openings for effective trade (7)
- 73 Like Wordsworth's child, endlessly, in his vocation (9)
- 75 First in restaurant is getting fish or meat dish (7)
- 76 French wine in a Russian gallery? (9)
- 77 Hence K Fisher's title and L Lockett's distress (7,7,6,7)

SOLUTION TO NO 1342

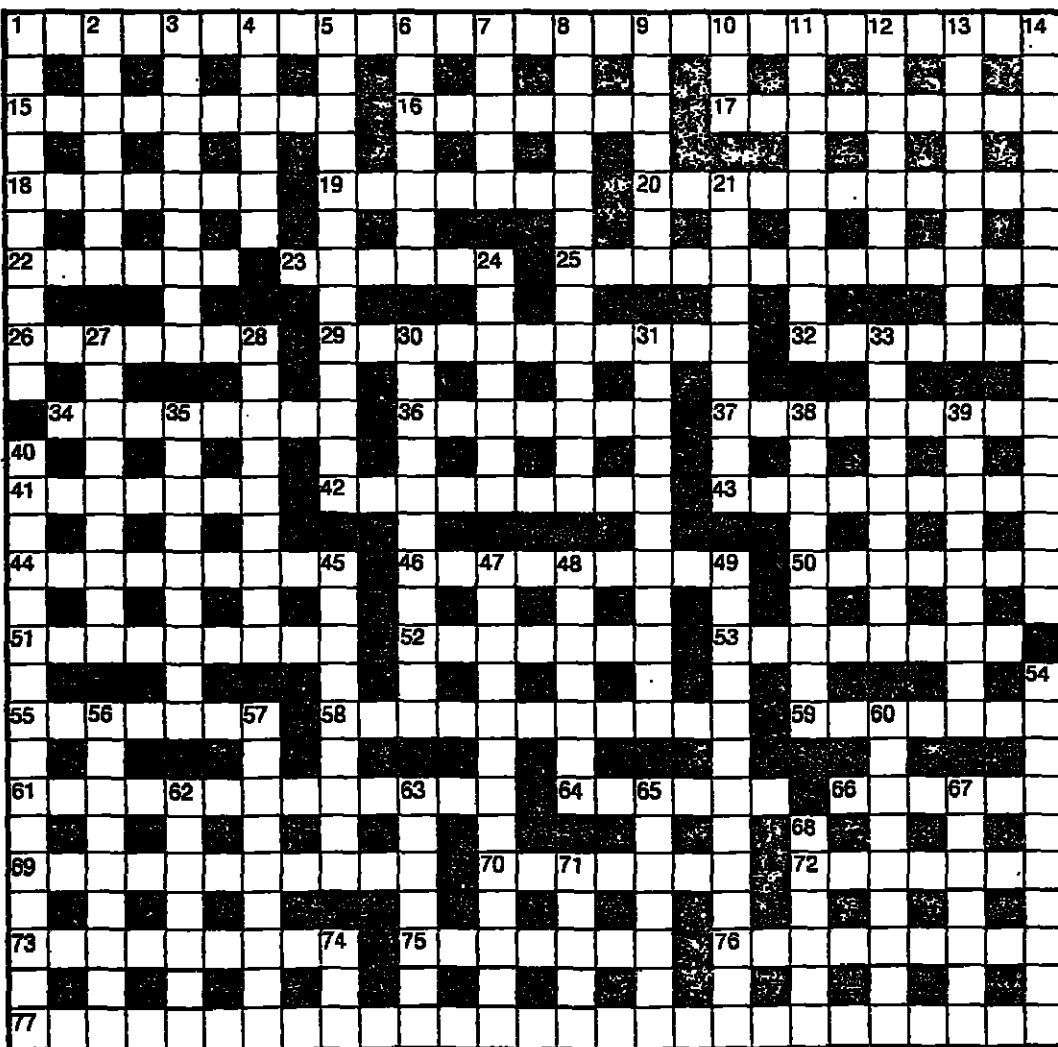
(last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Riches 4 Occupancy 7 Suit 8 Outcasts 15 Joseph Conrad 16 Awards 18 Scuffs 17 Peak District 23 Forenoon 24 Koch 25 Shoddy 26 Canyon
DOWN: 1 Roly 2 Chupatla 3 Snop 4 Opic 5 Chan 6 Pita 10 Laded 11 Occur 12 Refecto 13 Duet 14 Harp 18 Epoch 19 Knead 20 Ivory 21 Tonic 22 Khan

DOWN

- 1 Commercial for tin hat after latter half of season (10)
- 2 Cossip said to have been started by Steele (7)
- 3 This gland much overworked by Nibbe (9)
- 4 What we hear is said to be venacious (6)
- 5 Find cover-note is wrong? Sure, too much so (4,9)
- 6 A fault to get worn out climbing round Middle European summits (7)
- 7 An extremist contributes to a dreadful tragedy (5)
- 8 Where one slides to the bottom on one's own (fair clue?) (6,7)
- 9 Struggle to survive — or to drown in the Weser? (3,4)
- 10 Titania's dream-love? (3)
- 11 Infatuated by no means fast yet able to go anywhere (9)
- 12 Tree climbers capture last of the Roman spirits of the dead (7)
- 13 Foreign official's purpose is to accept Jacobson (9)
- 14 Hence, on boards, some degree of character assassination? (5,3,7)
- 21 Shed tears about her bird, Sweet Heliotrope (6,3)
- 24 Shorten a violin part (7)
- 27 Needs to make doctor stagger drunkenly (9)
- 28 A spring activity in plentiful supply (9)
- 30 Mistake made about it in neckwear for the provinces (11)
- 31 Gerrude Stein's sedentary bird we associate with grass? (5,6)
- 33 Dug under a construction that appears vulnerable (9)
- 35 Irish land of romance — an oddity? (9)
- 38 Seen outwardly in the ascendant but inside eats in poverty (9)
- 39 Sun god, like a threatened king, gives compensation for downfall (4,5)
- 40 Being first in the field is a cinch? Not quite (9,2,5)
- 45 Club has done without one dish of mixed vegetables (9)
- 47 Murder in retrospect a very successful one (13)
- 48 Gunga Din's was "nothin' much before, an' rather less than 'arf o' that be'ind" (7)
- 49 He writes commentaries rather than articles for posh magazines (13)
- 54 Indians hold various sorts of top-mast supporters (10)
- 56 Putting in new arrangement for nine tris (9)
- 57 One of three bridge heroes finds the lady's small car unserviceable (9)
- 60 Note church's receipt of French rumour — hard to understand (9)
- 62 Military force of maybe 24 (7)
- 63 Onset of alopecia of some 'elp to the besieger? (3,4)
- 65 Beans sometimes seen on sideboards (7)
- 67 Free to grant another tenancy (7)
- 68 Does this school so grievously distress its students? (6)
- 71 Shallow place to find many fish (5)
- 74 "Fairest of her daughters" (Milton) (3)

The winners of prize concise No 1342 are: Philip W. Jarron, Southland Road, Leicester; and Lena W. Jarron, Sandridge Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday, September 14. Entries should be sent to The Times Jumbo Crossword, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday, September 19.



Name

Address

ACROSS

- 1 1954, Howard Keel "The Sobbin' Women" musical (5,6,3,5,8)
- 15 Old Test. rituals book (9)
- 16 Happening daily (7)
- 17 Mid colour (6,3)
- 18 Chocolate fingers (7)
- 19 Anglican bishops' conference venue (11)
- 20 Lowest RAF rank (11)
- 22 Influenced with money (6)
- 23 Nave, neep (6)
- 25 Unobstructed ground (4,5,4)
- 26 Pope's foreign emissaries (7)
- 29 Meant (11)
- 32 Dustin Hoffman transvestite film (7)
- 34 Speech manner (8)
- 36 Part exchange (5,2)
- 37 Uneasy (3,2,4)
- 41 Quietened (7)
- 42 Proper time (3,6)
- 43 Edify (9)
- 44 Striking (9)
- 46 Backing a certainty (2,1,6)
- 50 Most tender, loving (7)
- 51 Musicians' group (9)
- 52 Unconventional (7)
- 53 In the power of another (8)
- 55 Badly maintained (3-4)
- 58 Say goodbye to (4,5,2)
- 59 Octave plus a fifth interval (7)
- 61 Double maize whiskies (5,8)
- 64 Excludes (6)
- 66 Using nuclear energy (6)
- 69 German submarine guard (1-4,6)
- 70 Renaissance (7)
- 72 Lower forehead ridge (7)
- 73 Not requiring quick action (3,6)
- 75 Unresident US hospital doctor (7)
- 76 Having a feast (9)
- 77 Mark Twain runaway slave novel (10,2,11,4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1347 (yesterday's concise crossword)

1 Pandit 4 Blow-up 7 Note 8 Limerick 9 Odyssey 11 Taper 12 Nuclear winter 15 Dingy 16 La Scala 20 Plectrum 21 Hash 22 Testium 23 Nutmeg
DOWN: 1 Pin down 2 Natty 3 Tulle 4 Bump 5 Whipped 6 Poker 10 Seedy 11 Tote 13 Contend 14 Road hog 15 Depot 17 Adman 18 Alarm 19 Trim

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EATING OUT

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Jonathan Meades takes guard against
bowler Phil Edmonds's latest deliveries



with apologies to Tennyson

Photographs illustrating the life and achievements of its owner occupy two-thirds of the dining area walls of the restaurant 246. Here is Philippe Henri Edmonds, the Middlesex and England spin bowler, receiving the congratulations of his teammates after taking a wicket; here he is posing with David Gower beside an Australian train. They add up to a gallery of unwitting mock-heroism which sits awkwardly in what is otherwise a fairly elegant establishment.

Its elegance, like its name, derives from 192, in Notting Dale: Edmonds lives round the corner from that successful enterprise and has brought to Battersea his sometime manager-cum-banman and one of its cooks. The graphics and content of the menu are zealously imitative; the cooking is akin but a bit better; the design is in the same manner, but improved by displaying fewer post-modern decorative clichés.

The facade to the street is mutely "industrial" and of the sort architects confect for their own premises. Inside it's predominantly duck-egg blue with mottled green relief, purposeful-looking (and comfortable) black chairs, pink banquettes and a handsome bar.

The professionalism of the place is rather masked by its thorough informality; the casualness, though, keeps well this side of slovenliness. Nonetheless, one might wish for more precise menu descriptions - oysters billed as "lightly steamed" were so lightly steamed that they were raw (though none the worse for that); a hollandaise wasn't a hollandaise but an egg and butter emulsion no more cooked than the oysters which were, incidentally, served with salmon eggs, leek julienne and a thinnish sauce.

The "hollandaise" went with deep fried squid. The dish would have been improved had the sauce possessed the genuine article's slight sharpness.

There followed a massive amount of fried liver with fat field mushrooms and a delicious gravy enhanced by grain mustard. Lurking in this sauce - but not, thankfully,

contaminating it - was a fistful of musky marjoram. Then came a good steak with an iffy béarnaise whose faults were those of the preceding hollandaise.

The kitchen knows how to fry chips - a too-rare achievement - and does some nice vegetables, including yellow-skinned zucchini. Cheese: a small and considered selection at the height of its form and generously served. Wine: a catholic but unexciting list which ought, like every other list, to look more to Australia.

With a very proper Gewürztraminer as an aperitif and a sound, if pricey, Morgon, the bill was £78 for two.

There is an English tradition of arboreal names for concrete and brick. Cherry Tree Walk is, of course, a lump of concrete and nothingness in a shopping precinct to the north of the Barbican. And the Café Rouge in it isn't red, but the colour the French call bordeaux. There is already a Café Bordeaux and it isn't half as good as the Rouge.

I sat outside the Café Rouge on an impossibly hot night

and gaped - through its tired barrier of eucalyptuses, tamarisks and Forsythia - at the service pipes of a car park, at the wholesale quantities of chicken wire which are doubtless protection against lumps of falling modern architecture. If a suburb with one canal can become known as Little Venice, then this certainly deserves the appellation Little Birmingham.

Inside the restaurant, whose net curtains are an unnecessary barrier between precinct and parlour, the lay-out is engaging, with a sort of mezzanine whose occupants face a massive sign reminding them of the place's name. Not, I think, that they're likely to forget it, given the very distinctive nature of the cooking.

The chef here, Duncan Hewittson, was lately sous chef at Simply Nico and some (though not all) of Ladenis's mannerisms have rubbed off on him. But mannerisms don't make a meal, and Nico has a gift for pacing the complicated process of a fine

meal, which is not a sprint but rather a middle-distance event.

Hewittson's fault, if you can call it that, is to have brought his technically exemplary and fiercely intense cooking to a place which doesn't match it. There is a singular disjunction between dining-room and kitchen, and dining precinct too.

A meal here is constructed with Nico-ish components, but without the balance, élan and restraint of a Ladenis grand plan, which is indeed a benevolent and worthwhile tyranny.

What this means is that, in unlikely surroundings, one is served a succession of individually quite marvellous dishes on one note, or three - richer, richer, richer. I rarely feel defeated by a meal, but this was one I gave up on.

It started with a feuilleté of fried cepes, chanterelles and luscious asparagus, accompanied by a rich port sauce, and with toasted scallops and a sauté of chicory in a rich and wonderful orange butter sauce. It continued with one of the finest ducks I've ever tasted (and one of the richest and gamiest) with a child's-tooth-friendly currant and port sauce with which even a sharp apple purée could not contend. Also, steak with a sauce based on rum which was extravagantly saccharine.

None of this, I know, sounds much like Nico, but carrots dressed in burnt sesame oil does, and so does warm smoked salmon with cream and chives - this latter was off by the time I arrived but would not, I reckon, have done much to mitigate the sumptuous monotony.

Now, I must reiterate that I was at the Café Rouge on a night that dictated a more meagre meal, but even given a cabin in Tromsø in January and Hewittson to cook for me I'm sure I'd get him to hold back a bit. As it is, a meal will cost about £70.

246, 246 Battersea Park Road, SW11 0JL (01-924 1294) 12.10-3pm and 7.30-10pm, Mon to Sat, 12.30-3pm Sun. Closed Sun night.
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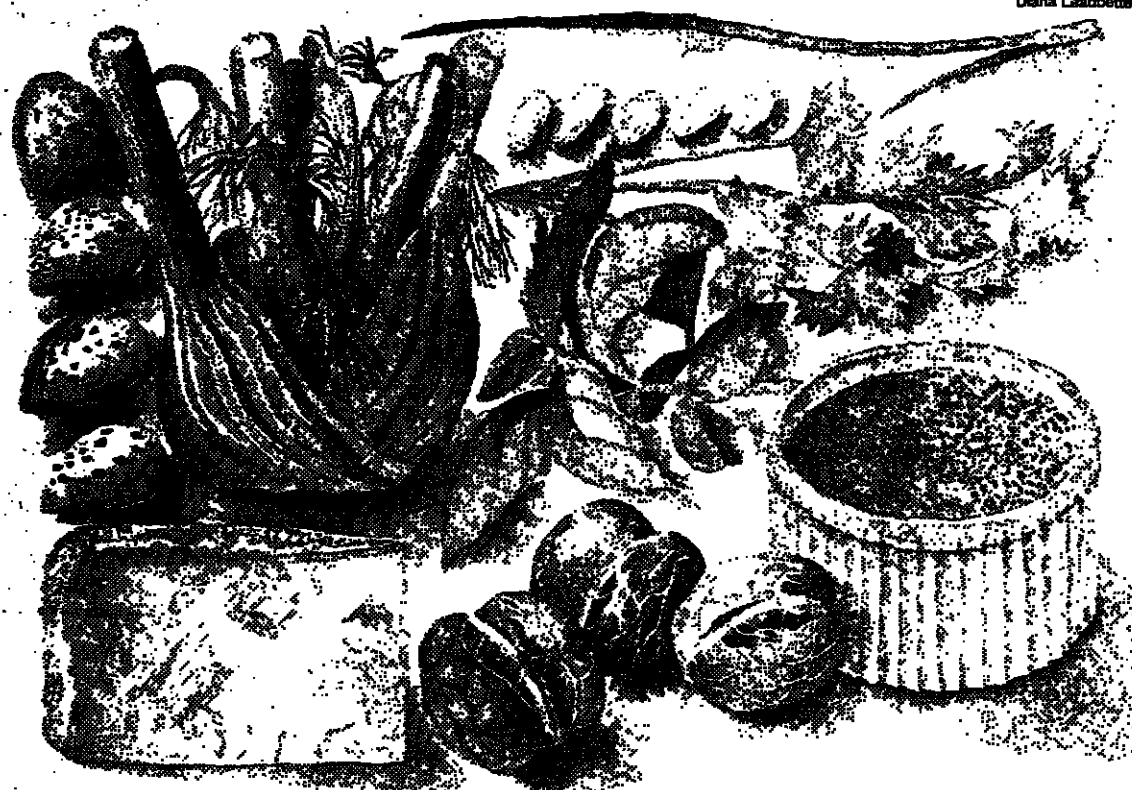
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David Colles

THE TIMES COOK

So much to do,
so little timeHouse-sitting Frances Bissell reports from the
Oxfordshire frontline, where doing battle with a
rampant garden has kept her out of the kitchen

Diana Laidlaw

Gardens, like dogs and computers, can spot a novice a mile away. I had not realised how much of a "townie" I had become until we agreed to house-sit - garden watch is more like it - for friends in an Oxfordshire village.

Now I'm in the middle of doing battle with Mother Nature and I have the stars to prove it - bushes around the sheds from stripping the redcurrants that grow too near the nettle bed, and forgetting that wellies are kept next to the back door for just such a purpose.

Of course, those redcurrants that could be safely dealt with now repose in frosty glory in the deep-frozen. Gooseberries have been made into crumbles and into pots of wild pink jelly for the winter. After the gooseberries, there is the last of the brambleberries to pick while still finger-length. Do we eat them all or freeze some? Do I let the courgettes develop, or do I pick off the flowers to stuff and fry? Half-a-dozen baby artichokes await the kitchen knife - to be eaten now, or cooked and preserved in olive oil?

Judging from their leggy posture, the exotic lettuce bolted days, if not weeks ago, but they are still delicious, crisp, fresh and with a nutty flavour.

Lovage and herb celery for casseroles; borage to put in drinks or in cream cheese and sorrel omelettes; rocket, fennel, coriander, all types of mint and thyme... they all seem to be edging ever closer.

I had imagined us strolling round the garden, me deadheading the roses with a pair of secateurs in gloved hand, Tom picking some alpine strawberries to have for tea on the lawn. Everything would be accomplished at a gentle pace, with plenty of time to read all the books lining the kitchen and study shelves.

Of course, I was going to make some pots of jelly for our absentee landlord's return, from gooseberries, from the first of the blackberries and from the windfalls. I had intended to make some tomato coulis, and preserve some fruit in liqueur so that they would come back to rows of gleaming jars on shelves.

But it's not working out quite like that. The garden is growing, sprouting, ripening, bolting, wilting and resowing itself to such an extent that something must be done about it. I'm off now to pick all the basil, scythe the lovage, mow the onions, shoot the sorrel, thresh the fennel and hope that I'll have the energy left to make pots of pesto and sorrel purée. I wonder what gooseberry and fennel jelly would be like?

Cooking what we pick presents no problems: a gas hob, a Jennair grill - even a barbecue if the weather's right. And there has been the delight of reacquainting myself with an Aga.

Unusual cuts of pork, such as

jowl, trotters and belly, have gone into a large casserole with borlotti beans, tomatoes and white wine, cooked gently, and emerged as a simple, rustic stew, which we have eaten in the garden, straight from the casserole, or sitting at one end of the long kitchen table, bare feet on the cold stone floor.

It has all been quite idyllic, and I'm sure I shall know much more about gardening if they want us to house-sit again next year.

Herb butter
(Makes about 1/2 lb / 225g)

Recently, I came across pesto made by an Italian chef, with butter rather than olive oil. It was light and delicious, and I have since made variations on the same theme. I made the first with basil, pine nuts and a mixture of parmesan and cantal, which were the two cheeses I

had to hand. Fennel and almonds go well together, as do coriander with walnuts or pine nuts. Flat leaf parsley is good with any of these three nuts, and I think chives with almonds might also work well. The more pungent, oily herbs, such as thyme, sage and rosemary would, I feel, be rather too strong, but you may think otherwise. Serve the herb butter on grilled fish, scallops or meat. It is also excellent when stirred into pasta or vegetables. A food processor is useful in making this dish, particularly if you make it in double or triple quantities.

2oz / 50g hard cheese
1oz / 25g herbs
2oz / 50g nuts
3oz / 75g unsalted butter
salt and pepper

Grate the cheese, and put to one

side. Finely chop the herbs and nuts together. Then add the butter and process or beat until smooth and creamy. Add the cheese to the mixture and blend thoroughly. Season lightly and pack into jam jars and ramekins. Cover and keep refrigerated.

Pork and bean casserole
(Serves 6 to 8)

It is a good idea to make plenty of this casserole. It tastes even better the next day and, with the addition of stock, left-overs make a delicious soup. You do not have to use the cuts of meat - which are so cheap that they might be called "off-cuts" - I have suggested. A joint of boned spare rib can be used, as can hand of pork or belly pork. Prepare the beans in advance by soaking them overnight, then boiling fast for 20 minutes.

1 small piece of pork fat, about 1 oz / 25g
2 onions
1 1/2 lbs / 675g boned rolled joint of spare rib
1 lb / 450g piece of pig's head
2 pig's trotters, split down the middle
1 lb / 450g soaked, pre-cooked and rinsed beans
1 lb / 450g peeled tomatoes (fresh or tinned)
4 cloves garlic, peeled and crushed
bottle of dry white wine
pinch of salt and pepper
herbs for flavouring and garnish

Melt the pork fat in a large casserole. Peel and slice onions and fry until golden brown. Fry the pieces of meat all over until lightly browned. Add the rest of the ingredients and bring slowly to the boil. Cover and cook at the bottom of a low oven, gas mark 3 / 170°C / 325°F, for 2 1/2 to 3 hours, until beans and meat are tender. If, when cooked, the casserole is too liquid for your taste, pour off most of the liquid into a saucepan. Boil and reduce by half and stir back into the casserole.

Taste and add more seasoning if necessary and serve garnished with fresh herbs of whatever variety you have chosen to flavour the casserole. I have sometimes added potatoes, peeled and cut into thick (at least 1/2 in) slices, about halfway through the cooking time. Very tasty. You will probably want to serve a crisp green salad with this: no vegetables, although baby courgettes tossed in the herb butter would make a good starter.

Gooseberry crumble
(Serves 6)

For this use a pie dish that holds something more than 2 pints / 1.21 volume and has a depth of at least 1 1/2 inches / 4 cm so that it will take a layer of gooseberries and leave enough room for the crumble topping. If the gooseberries are very tart, you may need more sugar for cooking.

2 lb / 900g gooseberries
4oz / 100g sugar
4oz / 100g unsalted butter
6oz / 175g plain flour
2oz / 75g flaked or whole blanched almonds

Top and tail the gooseberries. Wash them and place in a saucepan with half the sugar. Cook gently until the fruit is just tender. Put the fruit in the pie dish. Make the crumble topping in a food processor or by hand. Cut the butter into cubes and rub it into the flour. Chop or process the nuts - not too fine - and stir into the flour mixture together with 2oz / 50g sugar. Spoon this over the fruit and pat down lightly. Bake in a fairly hot oven, gas mark 5, 190°C / 375°F for 15 to 20 minutes, until lightly browned on top.

DRINK

Listing from
wines to port

Time was when merchants' lists were flimsy, typewritten items that flopped on to wine writers' desks once or - if we were lucky - twice a year. But not any more. Today's crop is so glossy and expensively produced that many lists would look at home in a bookshop or art gallery.

Wine drinkers are now wooed with a persistent battery of quarterly lists, as well as numerous seasonal en primeur and bin-end offers in between.

As I plough through all of these I sometimes pine for the old "annual list only" approach. But, in the wine trade's defence, I should say that escalating producers' prices and fluctuating exchange rates have given many merchants a little alternative but to bombard us as and when these changes occur. This year's wackiest and wittiest list is Oddbins's Summer 1987 offering, which even had its own launch party.

Illustrated with specially commissioned Ralph Steadman cartoons, this sterling effort does what wine lists should, yet often rarely does: encourage wine drinkers to look at every page.

Some time ago I was worried that Segrain, Oddbins's new owners, would insist that their own wines and spirits - such as Sandeman port and Muram champagne - should dominate the selection on sale here. But the reverse seems to have occurred.

Oddbins has been given a useful injection of cash, enabling it to increase its outlets from 50 or so to around 80. Go to Oddbins for a mouthwatering collection of champagnes, including its amazing unlimited offer of seven bottles of any one champagne for the price of six. Oddbins's list of almost 30 Australian wines is also well worth plundering, but don't bother with the unexciting Seaview sparkling that have just arrived. Write to Caroline Miles at Oddbins, 31-33 Weir Road, Durnford Industrial Estate, London SW19 for a copy of the list and the address of your nearest outlet.

Roger Harris, Britain's Mr Beaujolais at Lake Farm, West Longville, Norfolk, has just sent out his 1987 list, which is more like a book than ever before. This time it includes the Maconnais, that white wine region to the north of Beaujolais, "to complement our selection of Beaujolais" as Harris puts it.

This masterly guide to Beaujolais includes everything from the lowdown on the hotels and restaurants of Beaujolais to the growing and making of the wine. There are also maps, an assessment of recent vintages, and tasting notes on the 70 different Beaujolais listed. Anyone opening a wine shop in Scotland, with its severe shortage of fine wine merchants, deserves a medal. So congratulations to Judith Paris on her brave new warehouse venture. Wines

From Paris (The Vaults, 4 Giles Street, Leith, Edinburgh).

Her first (summer 1987) list details more than 150 well-picked wines, including such treats as Chateau La Jaurie, from Bergerac, Pierre Ferrand's Beaujolais, some fine clarets and a good Antipodean selection. The list's prices include delivery anywhere on mainland Scotland. Any wine drinker living north of the border should make certain of a copy.

Finally, no review of wine lists can ever truly be completed without mentioning that of Adams (The Crown, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk). Again, this is more like a book than a list, with the thoroughly delightful extra of Simon Loftus's own inspiring photographs and text enhancing it. How he managed to snap Bordeaux winebroker Henri Quenard, wearing an extraordinary crumpled rain hat pulled down over his eyes, I'll never know.

The 1987 Adams catalogue continues last year's food and wine theme, with suggestions from Suffolk restaurateurs.

Jane MacQuitty

IN THE GARDEN

September song

Relaxation is definitely out of fashion today, when even leisure is fiercely active. But though the garden can be a place for Bank Holiday indulgence, a gardener's work is never done.

I usually make a visit to my local nursery at this time of year to give the garden - and myself - a lift. I like to shop for a few choice plants when the garden is at its fullest, and you can see the mature height and extent of your existing plants. This is also the time of year when I find our local nurseries have an edge over the garden centres, which seem to have run down their stock, except for browned-off lobelias, roses past their best and ranks of conifers and heathers.

On this trip I found two interesting young foxgloves which, if established now, will flower next year. I was keen to have the ferny foxglove *Digitalis ferruginea*. I was keen to have it because it was a favourite of the 18th century, grown by Gilbert White, who liked its hairy yellow flowers, with their rusty flecks.

The other, *Digitalis*

Others may be taking it easy this Bank Holiday weekend, but Francesca Greenoak will be kept busy

daviana, remains a mystery, for I can find it described in no reference work. I should be glad to hear from anyone who grows it.

I also fell for a *Sidalcea*, its spike of pink buds just on the point of opening. With its delicate, mallow-like flowers, this is a real beauty, and it has done very well this year - despite the lack of sun. The one I bought is *Sidalcea malvaeflora* (Rose Queen) but, as with geraniums, you can get different shades within a named variety, and it is best to pick out the ones you prefer from a range of plum to silky shell-pink.

Sidalcea is perennial but only moderately hardy. It should be given a sunny place with as much shelter as possible. You can gather seed - as an insurance policy - but

named varieties do not come true.

Anaphalis triplinervis, sometimes called Pearl Everlasting, is a boon to a leafy mixed border in semi-shade. This is a handsome plant whose white, starry button flowers are set against pretty grey-green foliage. It does well in well-drained, moist soil (so long as it isn't waterlogged in winter) and is one of the few silvery plants which tolerates a bit of shade.

I shall spend some time this weekend putting in tulip bulbs, which seem to be particularly good this year. I intend to have red tulips coming up through the spring foliage of perennials such as columbine and alchemilla. I hope that, like the other tulips in this garden, they will settle in and come up year after year. I really can't be bothered with taking up spring bulbs and they seem to do quite well sharing the top-dressing of compost that I give the perennials in the autumn.

There are so many other beautiful late-summer plants which you can find at those



Rose Queen: the delicately beautiful *Sidalcea malvaeflora*

good nurseries which are not afraid to stock some of the more unusual plants. There are some lovely forms of speedwell, the double soapwort, Bouncing Bet, and a whole range of stately verbasiums.

Finally, it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that it may rain this weekend, so have an indoor job up your sleeve. Get garden records up to date, and make out labels so you don't lose track of dormant plants during the winter.

Clara Roberts

WEEKEND TIPS
OUT OF DOORS

- Prepare areas where you will plant new lawns next month; dig over, and remove weeds and stones from the site.
- Make a new strawberry bed, using your own rooted runners or new, virus-free, stock.
- Trim privet, conifer and honeysuckle hedges - you probably won't have to do it again before the winter.
- Tie in climbing roses which have grown in the wet weather.
- Cut back overgrown plants which may be threatening late summer blooms.
- Cut out the flowering stems (to prevent it reproducing readily) and decapitate foliage of Lady's Mantle.
- Well-trained wisteria should have side-shoots cut back to four or five leaves from mature wood, to encourage formation of flower-buds.
- Limit foliage growth on grapevines and trim split or damaged grapes from bunches every few days.

INSIDE WORK

- Pinch out tops and unruly foliage from tomato plants and turn pots to make out back to four or five leaves from mature wood, to encourage formation of flower-buds.
- Limit foliage growth on grapevines and trim split or damaged grapes from bunches every few days.
- Watch house and greenhouse plants for insect pests; the webs and yellow blotching which betray the presence of the red spider mite are more likely to appear in hot weather. Isolate the afflicted plant and treat with derris.
- If you keep your greenhouse frost-free, you can continue to take cuttings from huchsia and pelargonium.
- Sow cyclamen, soaking the seed for 24 hours beforehand. Use F1 hybrids and watch them for a period of germination, pinching out as they come up. The young plants will require the temperature not to fall much below 45°F (7°C).

GARDEN NEWS

The wasp season is with us again. These rather malignant insects do a lot of good in the garden, however, by eating aphids and caterpillars. They only go out seeking sweet fruit at this time of year because their task of feeding larvae with garden pests is over. They do not usually sting unless agitated but, if you are unlucky, the aerosol wasp-kill dispels both the swarming and the pain. It is the most effective remedy I have come across. Besides wasps, it works for bees and jellyfish stings as well, and helps with horse-fly and mosquito stings. If you treat them immediately,

Roy Hay

GARDENS TO VISIT

TODAY AND DAILY
Gumbert's Linholm, on west shore of Derwentwater, 1 mile from Portinscale, 3 miles from Keswick; off A66 at Portinscale; formal and woodland gardens; daily until October 31; 10am-5pm.

TOMORROW
Ayrshire Blairquhan, Straiton, Maybole; 1/2 mile south of Kirkcubright, entry from B7045; walled garden, herbaceous border, Regency glasshouse, fine trees; 2-6pm.

Surrey: Annesley, Three Gates Lane, Haslemere; 3 acres of shrubs, roses, annuals; plants of interest to flower arrangers. Also open, entrance from Annesley, is Springfold, 18 acres, mainly shrubs and woodland; one charge admits to both; 2-6pm.

Kent: Withersdale Hall, Wye College, Wye, north-east of Ashford; off A23, take fork signposted to Wye; fine garden of horticultural and botanical interest: flower borders, alpine, plants to grow on chalk; herb garden; 2-5.30pm.

Hereford and Worcester: Glen Wye, Courtfield, 5 miles south of Ross-on-Wye; from A40 east to Goodrich, thence to Courtfield, Welsh Bicknor; 2 1/2 acres, Italianate garden, rock gardens, water garden, woodland garden; 2-6pm.

MONDAY
Somerset: Beryl, 1/2 mile north of Wells off B3139 to Bath; walled vegetable garden, double borders for cut flowers, trees and shrubs; 11am-6pm.

ROY HAY

A corker of
a problem

Bad news for wine-lovers - Portugal's cork oak supply is dwindling

After suffering abusive harvesting for some 2,000 years the poor old cork oak tree, *Quercus suber*, is showing signs at last of giving up the struggle. In Portugal, where more than half the world's cork harvest of some 400,000 tons a year is produced, the total afforested acreage of cork oak now stands at only 2.5 million hectares.

Normally the "alcorque," to give it its Arab derivation, reproduces itself naturally, from fallen acorns. Planned re-afforestation has never been practised to any great extent in Portugal, for the simple reason that a tree takes up to 40 years to reach the production stage. Few, if any, cork farmers plan their activities that far ahead.

But now that the decline has set in, committees representing the EEC and the agricultural and farming co-operatives of Europe are drawing attention to the "serious and worrying situation".

There is just no substitute for nature's perfect stopper, and while the wine producers of France and Germany prefer Portuguese corks to plastic imitations, there will always be suppliers to satisfy this demand. So presumably, by hook or by crook, enough cork oaks will be found to provide the raw material.

An evergreen, *Quercus suber* grows to a height of some 40 feet. It flowers in April and May, and produces acorns which ripen by October. Like its cousin, the English oak, its acorns are edible, and are an alternative diet for the sheep, pigs and turkeys which some of Portugal's cork farmers run as sidelines.

The bark is removed during the summer months, mainly in July, and each tree can yield a harvest of between 30 and 50 kilograms. Strippings are restricted to intervals of approximately 10 years.

The stripped bark is left to dry for up to a year. This is to

ensure that no trace of mucus is left in the cells which might taint the wine it is meant to protect.

Next it is soaked in boiling water, to bond its millions of tiny air-filled cells tightly together. It is these cells which give cork its lightness, buoyancy, resilience, and resistance to liquid penetration. Finally the bark is scraped smooth, at which stage it is ready for processing.

The cork industry is worth some £120 million a year to Portugal's economy, providing skilled strippers, for example, with up to £90 a week - quite good money for this comparatively low-paying country.

It is this cheapness of labour - as well as the human expertise, for no machine can strip and detect flaws in the bark as well as man can - which has given Portugal its comparative edge in cork production over countries such as Spain, Morocco and Algeria.

Max G. Threthewey

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Prices include VAT and delivery (UK mainland) in orders of 5 or more cases, cases less £1.10 per case. Full list from Wines of Westhorpe, 4, Box in Hill Road, Maidenhead SL6 4HJ. Tel: 0634 2161.

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BRIDGE

Transferring affections

The endless debate about whether artificial systems and conventions are desirable is only half the argument. More pertinent is whether they are effective.

Most rubber bridge clubs permit only the simple conventional, such as Stayman and Blackwood. For six months, I conducted an experiment "under live conditions" at the St James' Bridge Club, to discover how often the lack of some sophisticated weapon was a real disadvantage. Like the club golfer restricted to only six clubs, it was very seldom.

There were, I suppose, two areas where modern methods would undoubtedly have been helpful.

First, in competitive bidding, some doubles traditionally played as penalty are, if only on the basis of frequency of occurrence, admittedly better played as responsive, competitive or negative.

The non-penalty doubles that have been widely adopted by tournament players do convey an advantage. But these weapons also confuse some players, so there is a strong argument against their general acceptance.

The second problem that frequently occurred concerned minor suit-dominated hands in response to a weak no trump. Of course it is fine that rubber bridge players should have to do their best with rough and ready tools. But keen tournament players should have a sensible structure.

Transfer bids after a one no trump opening bid fulfil the three basic tests which should be applied to conventions.

(1) They do not, or should not, confuse the opposition.

(2) They do not take away bids which are valuable in their natural sense.

(3) They work.

Some people mistakenly believe that the sole purpose of transfer bids is to make the lead run up to the no trump bidder. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Take this simple Transfer sequence:

W	E
1NT (12-14)	2NT (11-12)
(1) Transfer to spades; he has five spades.	(2) He has about 11 points.

East has been able to convey two pieces of information on a hand which is difficult to describe using standard methods.

Without Transfer bids East is obliged to overstate his values with three spades, or suppress his spades with two no trumps.

Here are three hands which would be almost impossible to 'handle' playing rubber bridge and a weak no trump.

A	7 2	Q 5 4 3	A K J 6 2
B	Q 4 3	A K Q J 7 4	A J 10 9 8
C	A Q 5	A K 7 6 5	A J 10 9 8

Playing Transfer bids, two spades and two no trumps can be harnessed to introduce different types of awkward hands.

With hand A or hand B, responder would start with two no trumps. Opener is required to rebid three clubs. (If responder has a weak hand with clubs he can pass with a weak hand with diamonds he can amend to three diamonds, which opener is required to pass).

On hand A, after opener bids three clubs, responder would continue with three no trumps, showing at least game going values with two five-card minor suits.

On hand B, responder would continue with three hearts, showing a singleton heart and game going values, including a good six-card minor. In the light of this information opener can determine the best contract.

On hand C, responder starts with two spades; opener must rebid two no trumps. Responder continues with three spades, showing three good spades, a singleton heart, and five-four in the minors. An impossible hand to describe with normal methods.

I do not normally advocate the use of more conventions, rather the reverse. Transfer bids represent an exception because I believe that they will shortly become part of the universal language of bidding.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Gambits at the gallop

The mightiest assemblage of British chessboard mental muscle ever brought together battled for the BIS Group British Speed Chess Championship at London's Park Lane Hotel during the third week of August.

In a speed chess format no game can last for more than 50 minutes so - drawing an analogy with cricket - it could be said that the limited-overs game has moved from the playing field to the chessboard.

The BIS tournament was the first national championship of its kind, specially tailored for television. The contest was filmed by Thames Television for transmission by Channel 4 in seven episodes, starting in October.

Michael Feldman, producer of the programmes, said: "We hope that the attractive features we have introduced will help chess to make a breakthrough to a considerably wider audience."

For the first time, every leading British player, both men and women, took part either in an open preliminary or the subsequent knock-out tournament. The only prominent absentee, Tony Miles, has now left the English team and lives abroad.

Nigel Short, Dr John Nunn, Jon Speelman and Susan Arkell, the only woman to make it through to the quarter-final, were challenged by qualifiers from the preliminary, including the reigning junior world champion, Viswanathan Anand from India, and Igor Ivanov, the Canadian champion.

After a number of thrilling clashes, several resolved by five-minute blitz play-offs, Nunn defeated Julian Hodgson in the final, to take the BIS trophy and £2,000 first prize.

Thames has placed no embargo on the results, and game moves are only confidential from the second, third and final of the knock-out rounds. So, to comply with the rules, here is an exciting game from the first knock-out round.

White: Anand; Black: Ivanov Sicilian Defence, BIS Group Championship, first knock-out round.

1 e4	e5	2 Nf3	Nc6
3 Bb5	g6	4 Bx7	Bg7
5 Qd3	Qd6	6 Bc4	Bd7
7 Bc2	e6	8 a4	b4
9 d4			

A bold but double-edged pawn sacrifice; 9 d4 is less risky.

8 -	exd4	10 cxd4	Nc5
11 Nd4	Bx4	12 Nf2	Qd6
13 Nf3	Bg4	14 N3	Nd5
15 Qd3	Qf6	16 Qg4	N5

White has provoked a weakness in Black's King's side pawns, which makes it dangerous for Black to play ... O-O. On the other hand, Ivanov now has the chance to use his "h" and "g" pawns as a battering ram of his own.

17 Qe2	Nc7	18 Kf1	g5
19 Bc3	Ng5		

Black returns the pawn in order to speed up his counter-offensive on the King's wing.

20 Bxf6	g4	21 Bxf5+	Kf8
22 Kf4	Qh4	23 Nf2	Rg8
24 Qe1	Qf6	25 Bc4	Rd7
26 Bc3	g3	27 g3	h4
28 g4			

By the time this thrilling account of obstacles identified and overcome was first published in 1960, Tyrone Guthrie had helped to redirect international theatre.

Although not involved with the emergence of the National Theatre or the Royal Shakespeare companies, Guthrie worked in the 1930s and '40s with, and as successor to, Lillian Baylis at the Old Vic, the first theatre to present all of Shakespeare's plays, and with related opera and ballet companies at Sadler's Wells.

These arts centres *avant la lettre* demonstrated the artistic expedience of semi-permanent companies. Previously, the stage had been held by ad hoc groups assembled for long runs (or swift flops), and by downy repertory companies performing a different play each week, under actor-managers such as Sir Frank Benson, who was still playing Hamlet at nearly 70.

In the provinces and in radio, Guthrie learnt a technique to fall back on when inspiration failed. But - crucially - his facility with

Threatening ... Rb8+ with deadly effect.

Checkmate is inevitable. White resigns.

Raymond Keene

REVIEW

Old red eyes is back

ROCK RECORDS

Tom Waits: Franks Wild Years (Island JTW 3)
Trouble Funk: Trouble Over Here
Trouble Over There (4th & Broadway BRLP 513)
The Jesus And Mary Chain: Darklands (Blanco Y Negro BYN 11)
New Order: Substance 1987 (Factory FACT 200)

On Franks Wild Years Tom Waits has taken the persona of the boozy, disillusioned derelict with a perpetual "party in his head" about as far as it's going to go without lapsing into the kind of mawkish caricature that would not be out of place on *The Paul Hogan Show*.

The album is a natural, if rather disappointing, progression from the grainy, down-at-heel cameos of 1983's *Rain Dogs* and 1983's *Swordfishtrombone*, whence it borrows its title (from the memorable song about a chihuahua-hating arsonist).

Waits has chosen to subtitle the work *Un Operachi Romantic In Two Acts*, an indication of its origins as the soundtrack to a stage musical performed last year by the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago, with Waits in the starring role.

But we're not looking at an *Oklahoma* here. Notions of story-line and characterisation are swept aside by vague melodramatic flourishes which compare unfavourably with the stark lyrical portraiture of spiritual antecedents such as "In the Neighborhood" or "Jockey Full of Bourbon" from previous albums.

Still, there is little that can match the slap-happy spirit of musical *déshabille* that Waits has made his trademark, and which features more strongly than ever here. A piano tinkles uncomfortably and an old-fashioned pump organ luffs along just behind the beat on "Innocent when you Dream", providing a typical musical ambience redolent of the winos carousing outside the Actor Co-op on a Saturday afternoon.

Waits claims, facetiously but plausibly, to have sung the entire set through a police bullhorn, and his bellowing voice is frequently out on a lengthy limb, most noticeably on the vaudeville dirge of "Blow Wind Blow".

A farcical parody of Frank Sinatra's Vegas-showband delivery, "I'll Take New York", opens a window on the



Old groaner: Tom Waits has added some showbiz glitter to his streetwise lyrics

hollow values and bankrupt lifestyles that lurk beneath the ostentatious sheen of surface glamour that attends the rich and successful. One senses, though, that Waits is shouting the odds from the street below more stridently than ever, as his own life is sucked firmly into the ambit of good old-fashioned showbiz.

A recent visit to Washington DC proved to my satisfaction that the Go-Go phenomenon is anything but a hype. There really are great bands, like Experience Unlimited, which habitually set up and perform in the streets at lunchtime, while kids busk on

corners playing that distinctive walking funk beat on plastic pail drums.

From this environment comes the heavyweight brand leaders: Trouble Funk, whose *Trouble Over Here* *Trouble Over There*, produced by among others, Bootsy Collins is their most commercial offering to date.

"Hey Tee Bee" sums up the essence of Go-Go as well as anything here, with its chunky funk backbeat, interlocking percussion, heavy, deep bassline, half-spoken, half-sung lyrics, and an arrangement punctuated every so

often by complicated brass fanfares that unwind like a snake rising from a fakir's basket. It's like James Brown, Cameo and Run DMC all meeting in a very shady alley, though not as aggressive as such a combination might lead one to expect.

This album should remove the only remaining mystery about Trouble Funk, which is why, so far, they haven't had any hits.

Meanwhile, in the face of both the Jesus and Mary Chain's and New Order's supposed lack of broad "commercial" appeal, not to mention their own implacable disdain for the mores of the pop marketplace, both groups have become adept at placing records in the national singles chart.

Darklands, the Mary Chain's second album release, already boasts two hits in "Happy when it Rains" and "April Skies", and there may be more to come, as this is a much more considered and conventionally tuneful effort than its predecessor, 1983's tortuously inept *Psychocandy*.

It is nevertheless still an album racked with the num, introverted preoccupations of an arrested adolescence, and imbued with the Reid brothers' truculent understanding of their own unique brilliance as they plunder the usual Velvet Underground and American Sixties' guitar band sources.

New Order's *Substance 1987* is a double album containing all their 12-inch single releases, from 1981 to the present, every one of which has figured in the national chart (the CD and cassette versions also carry all the B-sides). "Blue Monday", with sales of more than 800,000 12-inches, remains the best-selling record ever released in that format, according to statistician Alan Jones.

A combination of rigid disco 16ths on the hi-hat, high melodic bass-lines and repetitive, cyclical chord sequences has proved an ideal formula with which to explore the 12-inch medium for the benefit of a rock audience, while also gaining access to a stratum of club-goers and disco dancers ordinarily closed to the music of rock bands. A must for all-night sessions at Heaven nightclub, of course. But, confronted with the whole lot, laid end to end in the front room, the uncommitted listener's attention may tend to wander.

David Sinclair

Hornucopia

JAZZ RECORDS

Bob Mintzer Camouflage (DMP CD-458)
Edward Vesala Lumi (ECM 1339)
Jazz Warriors Out of Many, One People (Artiles ANCD 8712)

Once upon a time, a big band was a big band: the blueprint of four trumpets, four trombones, five saxes and four rhythm - or thereabouts - did duty for all the Ellingtons, Basies, Goodmans and Hermans. Fashions change, and three new records offer very divergent ideas of big-band music today.

The 17-piece outfit led by Bob Mintzer, an American tenor saxophonist, offers the most conventional approach of the three, a 1960s version of the technically impressive, upwardly mobile style that made Maynard Ferguson popular in the Kennedy era. Abetted in Camouflage by such stalwart virtuosi as the trumpeter Randy Brecker and the drummer Peter Erskine, Mintzer makes his brass sizzle and crackle, and humour is never far away.

Edward Vesala, a gifted Finnish drummer and composer, envisions his 10-piece unit more as an expanded small group than as a miniature orchestra, applying the methods of Gil Evans to achieve the objectives of Weather Report. Texture and colour are paramount in Lumi Vesala's writing cleverly integrating avant-garde saxophone techniques - vocalization, tonal distortion and so on - into the music's carefully designed fabric.

The Jazz Warriors' formula is simpler. Out of Many, One People suggests that the ambitions of this 20-strong band of London-based black musicians extend no further than creating variations of John Coltrane's 25-year-old *Africa/Bra* album, in which the great man added brass and reeds to his basic quartet. Energetic percussion passages and the occasional outstanding solo - notably from Philly Robinson (trumpet) and Philip Bent (flute) - cannot budge the feeling that they need a controlling intelligence with an original viewpoint to help them realize their potential.

Richard Williams

Power and glory

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Mussorgsky/Rachmaninov: Songs Burchuladze/Ivanova (DG CD 419 239-2)
Rachmaninov: The "Elegiac" Piano Trios Beaux Arts Trio (Philips CD 420 175-2)

I've heard more diabolic laughter for Mussorgsky's "Flea", but on the whole this composer draws lively responses from Burchuladze. Ludmilla Ivanova, too, enjoys the satirical satire of "The Classicist" as much as the melancholy of "The Forgotten One".

Rachmaninov's great D minor Piano Trio is a litmus test for how any group of performers perceives the composer himself. Compared with the 1984 performances of the Borodin Trio, for example, the Beaux Arts brings the work closer to the salon, further from the grieving memory of Tchaikovsky which triggered the work's composition.

The first movement is never allowed to become musically oppressed by its own introspection, and the central variations offer a delightful series of tableaux of old Russia, with Menahem Pressler's split chords and Isidore Cohen's sweet violin playing.

Hilary Finch

Rachmaninov: The Four Piano Concertos and Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini Earl Wild/Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Jascha Horenstein (two Chandos CDs, CHAN 8521/2)

A stunning pair of compact discs. They explain why it was standing-room only at Wild's last London concert, and is always likely to be, for his pianistic virtuosity of the highest order, with crisp articulation informing rhythmic vitality, often at incredible - but never unmusical - speeds. Horenstein, who died 14 years ago, was a passionately romantic conductor, and provided Wild with ideal orchestral partnership.

These are gripping performances, right from the plunge into the arresting opening of the First Concerto (which shares the first disc with the Fourth and Rhapsody) to the stunning climax of the Third (which follows the Second on the other). No allowances have to be made for the recordings: they date from 1966, but are offered in model digital remasterings.

Richard Morrison

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Knight hawk

The new Theatre Museum in Covent Garden hopes to boost its disappointing receipts - only 500 visitors a day, paying £2.25 each, since its April opening - with an exhibition celebrating the stage career of Sir John Gielgud. Using photographs, models, paintings and documents, the exhibition, which opens in mid-October, will concentrate on the 84-year-old actor's most important early productions.

Banns

Members of the RSC have had to abandon plans to stage *Portrait of a Marriage*, an impression of the unusual relationship between Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson. Niamh Cusack and Simon Russell Beale intended to present the piece - based on the best-selling book by the couple's son, Nigel Nicolson - during next month's Early Stages festival at the Barbican. But a film company has bought an option - which bans stage performances - on the book's film and television rights, so a last-minute search is on to fill the gap.

Who are the Emperor's Warriors? Does the Chinese dance group, which moves to London's Royal Festival Hall next week after performances at the Edinburgh Festival, comprise the same dancers who greeted the Queen last year on her visit to Xian, where dwells the 4,000-strong terracotta army from which the troupe derived its name? The grey padded costumes and stocking-mask style headgear worn in one scene would suggest they are. But, says an organizer, "In that gear you can't even tell who are boys and which are girls. But they are all very nice."

Viol bodies

Music thought to have been composed by the great Paganini when he was having an affair with Napoleon's sister, Elisa Bacciochi, is to be given its first concert performance at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall on October 14. Under the



Paganini and Bianchi

title *Love's Sonatas*, the pieces will be played by Italian violinist Luigi Alberto Bianchi - who found them in the National Library, Paris - on the Stradivarius for which he recently paid a record £414,000.

Nothing works

The weird and wonderful workings of the Arts Council's Contemporary Music Network - which conveys the sound of minimalism to the artistically deprived regions - are to be scrutinized. The CMN has been so successful that other organizations want to take it over and the Council is reassessing its role. The inquiry coincides with the appointment of Dominic Barrington as organizer of the CMN, in place of founder Annette Morreau, now with Channel 4.

Lynda Murdin

NEW PAPERBACKS

FICTION
Life in a Scotch Sitting Room Vol 2, by Ivor Cutler, drawings by Martin Honeysett (Methuen, £3.95) Undoubtedly the most disgusting book of the year. Children will like it.

An Aquarium of Women, by Bjorg Vik. (Norvik Press, £5.50) Norway's most popular woman author.

NON-FICTION
World of an Elizabethan Magus, by Peter French (Ark, £4.50) Conjurer, alchemist, antiquarian... Dee was described, by the diarist John Aubrey, as "one of the ornaments of his age"; he did, however, do a stretch for "lewd and vain practices of calling and conjuring to enchant the Queen".

The Turning Point, by Klaus Mann (Serpent's Tail, £9.95) Autobiography of Thomas Mann's brother, author of *Mephisto*. He committed suicide in 1949 in the Grey D'Albion hotel in Cannes, a venue whose bar is well-known to Film Festival visitors.

Red Gold, by John Hemmings (Pergamon, £8.95) The conquest of the Brazilian Indians by the Portuguese. The usual tale of colonial greed and Jesuit fervour.

H. Rider Haggard: A Voice from the Infinite, by Peter Berresford Ellis (RKP, £8.95) Kipling's closest friend and creator of *She*, who must be obeyed.

Suffolk and Norfolk, by M.R. James (Alastair, £8.95) Bury St Edmunds, by Eile McCutcheon (Alastair, £5.95) The Suffolk Landscape, by Norman Scarle (Alastair, £9.95) Suffolk Scene, by Julian Tennyson (£5.95) Cutch of books about East Anglia from a new publisher based in Bury St Edmunds. Suffolk still looks like one of our most prosperous counties; at these Huguenot weavers. And Norfolk is still very flat. M.R. James was Provost of Eton and wrote *The Ghost Stories of an Antiquary*. Julian Tennyson was the great-grandson of the poet.

The Weimar Years: A Culture Cut Short, by John Willett (Tahmes and Hudson, £8.95) Brecht, Grotz, Piscator, Sally Bowles - they were all rather desperate people; they were all cut short by Hitler in 1933.

The Eskimos and the Aleuts, by Don E. Dumond (Thames and Hudson, £6.95) Comprehensive history of the world's most widely dispersed people. They do not eat eskies, nor do they rub noses - "Highly recommended" (The *Aukland Journal*).

The Day God Laughed, by Hyam Maccoby and Wolf Mankowitz (Robson, £4.95) Sayings, fables and entertainments of the Jewish sages. Rabbi Johanan ben Dahabai, when asked why people become deaf, replied, "Because they talk while having intercourse".

Jim McCue

Sense and sensibility

PAPERBACKS

A Life in the Theatre, by Tyrone Guthrie; Groucho and Me, by Groucho Marx (The Lively Arts Series, Columbus, £5.95 each)

By the time this thrilling account of obstacles identified and overcome was first published in 1960, Tyrone Guthrie had helped to redirect international theatre.

Although not involved with the emergence of the National Theatre or the Royal Shakespeare companies, Guthrie worked in the 1930s and '40s with, and as successor to, Lillian Baylis at the Old Vic, the first theatre to present all of Shakespeare's plays, and with related opera and ballet companies at Sadler's Wells.

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In the provinces and in radio, Guthrie learnt a technique to fall back on when inspiration failed. But - crucially - his facility with

established means never stopped him asking fundamental questions: "The grind of weekly 'rep' must be analogous to being on a daily newspaper - no nonsense about nice quiet rooms with views, waiting for inspiration and so on. Newspaper work makes a 'pro' of you. But I can conceive that in knocking the nonsense out of you, it may knock out much of the sensibility, too."



Rounded: Sir Tyrone Guthrie

But, professional as he was, Guthrie retained his sensibility, seeing that actors and audiences perform better when a company presents a season of plays, taking time to assimilate and experiment. He perceived that there is an optimum rehearsal period for each production - though

today's NT and RSC directors might be surprised to find that he thought this would usually be about three weeks!

Others may still be dismayed to hear that "at Covent Garden the Royal Ballet and the Royal Opera Company merely occupy the same premises; the one does not enhance the quality of the other". The same is true of the cohabitation of the RSC and the London Philharmonic at the Barbican: Stoppard's *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour* is the only known pretext for consumption. Would that Guthrie were here to suggest how to re-create the sense of occasion at Shakespearean productions that has been lost by constantly banging off the canon.

Reacting against naturalism, which at its peak had "real rabbits frisking around the Beerbohm Trees", Guthrie found operatic prosenium tableaux too suited for Shakespearean intimacies. He realized, from the design of Elizabethan theatres, that Hamlet's soliloquies "must have been spoken by the actor either on the move, or rotating on his own axis". Quietly conducting one of the age's most exciting dramatic experiments, he found he could quite naturally deliver "To be or not to be" while turning full circle: "Technically the trick

THE WEEK AHEAD



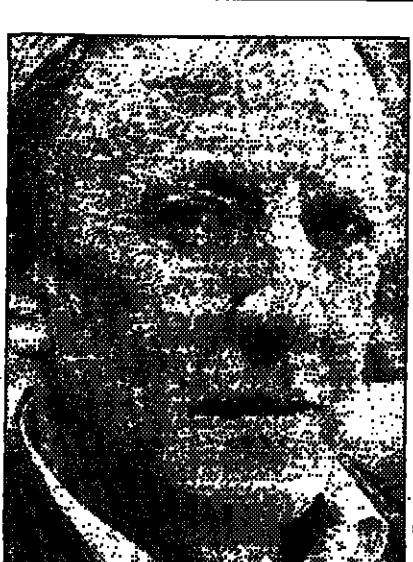
OPERA
WELCOME OVERTURES: Stephen Sondheimer hopes to be in London for the previews on Thursday and Friday of his *Pacific Overtures*. English National Opera is the first British opera company to stage a work by Sondheimer: this, their first new production of the 1967-68 season, is the London premiere of Sondheimer's trenchant ensemble piece about the "overtures" made by American warships towards Japan in the 1850s. Coliseum, London WC2 (01-836 3161). Previews Thursday and Friday, 7.30pm.



RADIO
HOLD FOURTH: Jonathan Dimbleby becomes only the fourth chairman in the 39-year history of *Any Questions?* This week, he succeeds John Timpson, who took over from David Jacobs in 1984. Jacobs had the job for 17 years, following the original chairman, Freddie Grisewood, who was in charge from 1948 to 1967. Dimbleby's first programme comes from Newbury in Berkshire and the panel comprises Roy Hattersley, Norman Tebbit, Des Wilson and Lucy Antoria Fraser. Radio 4, Friday, 8.20-9pm.



THEATRE
LADIES' DAY: Dorothy Tutin returns to the West End stage, starring with Eileen Atkins and Sian Phillips in the British premiere of *Thursday's Ladies*, a play by the French actress and playwright, Lohé Belion. The ladies are three friends of long standing who meet every Thursday to talk about their lives. In the process they re-enact old loves, jealousies and disappointments. Frank Hauser directs. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 2863). Previews from Wednesday, opens September 9.



CONCERTS
CAPITAL WORKS: Richard Rodney Bennett's *Lovesongs*, delicate settings of five e.e. cummings poems, are sung at the Proms on Monday evening by Robert Tear. Support is from the Manchester-based BBC Philharmonic conducted by Edward Downes, who add Rachmaninov's romantic Symphony No 2 and Delius's *Dance Rhapsody* No 2, a work that had its first performance at the Proms in 1923 under Sir Henry Wood. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, London SW7 (01-589 8212). Monday, 7.30pm.



ROCK
DISC DRIVE: Stevie Wonder, undeterred by the need to undergo surgery on his right index finger after this brief tour, fulfils the dates postponed from May when he makes his first British appearances since the summer of 1984. Although there has been no new album since 1985's *In Square Circle*, Motown's longest-running superstar will preview material from his forthcoming album in performances with his full touring band. From tonight, for eight nights (not Wednesday), Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234).



BOOKS
DESTRUCTURE: Malcolm Bradbury, novelist and professor of American Studies at the University of East Anglia, has some playful fun at the expense of structuralists, post-structuralists, deconstructionists and other modish academics in *Mensonge*, published on Thursday (Andre Deutsch, £7.95). Purporting to be a study of Henri Mensonge, structuralism's hidden hero, the book spreads its comic fantasy to a useless bibliography and index and has a spoof foreword by a real structuralist, David Lodge.

THEATRE LONDON

BROKEN PROMISES: British premiere of a double-bill of plays by Chinese-American writer David Henry Hwang: *The Dance and the Railroad* and *The House of Sleeping Beauties*. Tony Craven directs Richard Rees and Ric Young. Soho Poly (01-636 9050). Opens Sep 7.

IN THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST: Red Shift Theatre Company in a "science-fiction revenge tragedy" written and directed by Jonathan Holloway. Well-received on the Fringe at Edinburgh. Warehouse, 62 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey (01-680 4060). Opens Tues.

REMEMBRANCE: Derek Walcott's study of a retired teacher in newly independent Trinidad, directed by Carmen Munroe, opens the fourth Black Theatre Season, including three plays in all and continuing until November 21. Arts Theatre (01-636 3334). Previews Wed, Thurs. Opens Fri.

THIS SAVAGE PARADE: Israeli Nazim Hunter stage a secret trial of a war criminal in this 1981 Anthony Shaffer courtroom drama. Directed by Jonathan Myerson. With Alfred Marks, Garfield Morgan. King's Head, Islington (01-226 1916). From Tues.

OUT OF TOWN

BROMLEY: See How They Run: Roger Smith directs Kathy Staff, Harry Worth, Richard Warwick, Stacy Doming, in a new production of the Philip King farce. Churchill (01-460 6677). Charity Gala Tues. Opens Wed.

CHESTER: Made in Bangkok: Anthony Minghella's adult comedy, well-received in the West End. Gateway (0244 40393). Opens Thurs.

MANCHESTER: Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Jeffrey Archer's courtroom drama, with Frank Finlay, Wendy Craig. Palace (061 2369222). Mon-Sep 5.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: The Temming of the Shrew: Fiona Shaw, Brian Cox, directed by Jonathan Miller in his RSC directing debut. Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 255623). Previews from Thurs.

WATFORD: Everything in the Garden: Satirical comedy by Giles Cooper, directed by Brian Simer and featuring Paula Wilcox, opens the new season here. Palace (0923 225671). From Thurs.

FILMS

THE BIG EASY (16): Uncertain mixture of sex comedy and police thriller, with Dennis Quaid and Ellen Barkin. Directed by Jim McBride. Warner West End (01-439 0791). Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). From Fri.

RITA, SUE AND BOB TOO (16): Estate agent Bob embarks on complicated games of extramarital sex with Rita and Sue, two Yorkshire schoolgirls. Raunchy British comedy in the realist tradition. Warner West End (01-439 0791). Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366). Gate Notting Hill (01 221 0220).

THE BIG TOWN (15): Matt Dillon comes to Chicago in the 1950s to make his fortune rolling dice. Light-hearted period romp, with Diane Lane and Tommy Lee Jones. Leicester Square Theatre (01-330 5252). From Fri.

CONCERTS

DOUBLE PROM: Two Proms today - at 5.30pm the Black Dyke Mills Band plays Bliss's *Cello-catcher*, Vaughan Williams's *Variations for Brass Band* and Elgar's *Savannah Suite*. Then at 8pm Alicia de Larrocha solos in Havel's jazzy G major Piano Concerto. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington, London SW7 (01-589 8212, cc 01-589 9465). Today, 5.30pm, 8pm.

LONDON BRASS

The London Brass Ensemble performs Elgar Howarth's arrangement of *His Fancie, His Toys, His Drame* by Giles Farnaby. John Harle's arrangement of *Hoguetus David* by Machaut, Dominic Muldowney's reworking of the 14th century *Art Subtilior* and, with Roger Woodward at the piano, Xenakis's *Eonta* and Hindemith's *Konzertmusik*. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Today, 7pm.

HANDLEY/RPO: Vernon Handley conducts the RPO in Rachmaninov's last great work, the *Symphonic Dances*. Before this comes Elgar's *The Sanguine Fan* and Kathryn Stott (piano) solos in Walton's *Sinfonia Concertante*. Royal Albert Hall. Tomorrow, 7pm.

ANCIENT MUSIC: Christopher Hogwood conducts the Academy of Ancient Music in Beethoven's Symphony No 6 "Pastoral", and Steven Lubin is at the fortepiano for the Concerto No 5 "Emperor". Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891). Mon, 7.45pm.

MEHTA/MINTZ: Zubin Mehta conducts the Israel Philharmonic in Mahler's Symphony No 1 "Titan" and Arnold Mintz solos in Brahms's Violin Concerto. Barbican Centre. Wed, 7.45pm.

DANCE

INDIAN SUMMER: A London season showing the diversity of dance in the sub-continent. Chorus Theatre of Manipur - classical and folk dances from South India (Thurs) and the Odissi style (Fri).

SCOTTISH BALLET: The company divides into two groups to tour smaller towns. Both programmes include *Les Sylphides*. With that, Highland towns will see Peter Darrell's *Quintet* and Jack Carter's *Three Dances to Japanese Music* at Wick (Tues), Brora (Wed), Tain (Thurs) and Dingwall (Fri). Darrell's *The Prisoners* and Andre Prokory's *Vesperi* are given at the Theatre of Portlaoine (Tues), Dunfermline (Thurs) and Dumbarton (Fri). Details from Scottish Ballet Publicity Department (041 3312931).

OPERA

BIRTWISTLE: Aquarius are joined (tonight, 10pm) by the National Theatre Studio for Harrison Birtwistle's *Bow Down*, developed from an improvisational workshop by Peter Gill, John Burgess and Graham Devin. Nicholas Cleobury conducts. On Wed (7.45pm) *Bow Down* is twinned with *Down by the Greenwood Side*. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

LONDON SINFONETTA: A repeat of their "theatre recital" with staged performances of Monteverdi's *Il Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda*, Kegel's *Phonographie* and Berio's *Recital I*. Mon, 7.45pm. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191).

PHOTOGRAPHY

ASSIGNMENTS: Press photography is an evanescent and transient business. A picture is on the page one day and then never seen again. To photographers formed the Press Photographers Association and this show - with accompanying book - is their attempt to give their pictures a chance to breathe again. Barbican Gallery, Barbican Centre, London W1, London, EC2 (01-638 5403). Wed-Sep 20.

DANCE: Delightful small show taking dancing as its theme, with all prints for sale. Many good names - Roger Mayne, Robert Desnoes, Lucien Aigner - represented. Photographers Gallery, 5 Great

RADIO

RADIO ACTIVE: New series of irreverent comedy from the mythical local radio station and its team, headed by Helen Atkinson-Wood. Radio 4, today, 12.25-12.55pm.

THE SHADOW KNOWS: Orson Welles on radio, including his famous "Martians have landed" broadcast and a lesser-known Sherlock Holmes with Welles as Moriarty and John Gielgud as the detective. Radio 4, Fri, 11-11.47am.

STAN TRACEY: Playing duets with the bassist Roy Babbington and the trumpeter Guy Barker in the first half, and in quartet and quintet settings after the interval, the great pianist and composer should be heard to best advantage in the showcase concert. Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Tonight.

NEW YORK JAZZ: Interesting quintet featuring the young Scottish saxophonist Tommy Smith, now in regular employment with Gary Burton. Tonight, Cellioli Palace, Ullapool (0854 2103), tomorrow, Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen (0224 589101), Mon, Inverlaine Hotel, Nairn (0687 52039). Wed, Riverside, Newcastle (0632 614386), Thurs, Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476), Fri, Concord, Brighton (0273 608404).

CHICO HAMILTON: First heard with the famous Gerry Mulligan Quartet of the early Fifties, then as the leader of his own adventurous combos, Hamilton remains a deft and propulsive drummer. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith

GALLERIES

GLEN HARDIE: Paintings of women's bodies and internal organs by a promising young Scottish artist who lives in Berlin.

METAL AND MOTION: Entertaining painted and mobile sculptures by Kate

ROCK

NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL: Impressive line-up of reggae stars this year, including chart-topping Freddie McGregor ("Just don't want to be Lonely"), Misty In Roots, Maxi Priest and Ziggy Marley. From noon today, The Big Top, Wormwood Scrubs, London W12 (01-2297483).

PETERBOROUGH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL: Welcome back to the Old Country. Starring Hoyt Axton and The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (today); Billie Jo Spears and Johnny Cash (tomorrow); and Kris Kristofferson (Mon). Recommended: Texan singer-songwriter Nanci Griffith (tonight, 7.15pm). Today, tomorrow and Mon, from 2pm, Nene Embankment, Peterborough (0273 503001).

GEORGIA SATELLITES: Traditional roughneck r'n'b. Extraordinary success in America earlier this year with "Keep your Hands to Yourself". Today, Reading Festival, Richfield Avenue (01-437 8803); Tues, Victoria Hall, Hanley (0782 22618); Wed, Rock City, Nottingham (0602 412544).

FILMS ON TV

STAGE DOOR (1937): Katharine Hepburn as the inmate of a theatrical boarding house determined to make it on Broadway. With Gingers Rogers and crackling dialogue. BBC2, today, 9.25-10.55pm.

THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE (1946): Robert Siodmak's atmospheric thriller about a mute girl (Dorothy McGuire) terrorized by a homicidal maniac in an old dark house. Channel 4, today, 11.55pm-1.30am.

BAD DAY AT BLACK ROCK (1954): But not for Spencer Tracy, as the one-armed stranger sniffing out trouble amid the quiet menace of a desert town. With Robert Ryan as a superb villain.

TELEVISION

THE BEST YEARS OF YOUR LIFE: A repeat of the acclaimed play about a young cancer victim, written by Cive Jermain; who is himself suffering from the disease. BBC2, Wed, 9.25-10.20pm. Jermain is interviewed by Adrian Sherwood, the play's director, in *Cive Jermain: The Best Years* (BBC2, Thurs, 8.20-9pm).

BUST: Paul Nicholas as a wheeler-dealer fighting off bankruptcy and trying to keep his marriage together in a new drama by Philip Hinchcliffe and Simon Plessmore. With Phyllis Logan as the wife. ITV, Fri, 8.45-10pm.

WALKS

TODAY CAMDEN MARKET AND COVENT GARDEN: meet Kentish Town tube, 9.30am, £2.25.

TOMORROW UNDERWORLD LONDON - FAGIN'S FRIENDS: meet Museum of London, 2.30pm, £2.75.

CHAUCER, DICKENS AND SHAKESPEARE PUW WALK: meet London Bridge tube, 7.15pm, £2.75.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE: National Theatre production transfers to Aldwych on Nov 3, with cast including Eddie Carbone, Elizabeth Bell and Michael Simkins. Aldwych Theatre, London WC2 (01-636 6404).

THE SEE-SAW TREE: Booking for Whirligig Theatre production of David Wood play, on company's ninth annual tour. Dec 8-12. Sedler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-257 8916).

LAST CHANCE

MALTINGS PROMS: Last concerts feature Brass Band Prom, introduced by Chris Serie (tonight), Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields with Iona

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

OPERA: Rigoletto: Last chance to see the Finnish National Opera production, with Jorma Hynninen (tonight, 7.30pm), and Merikanto's powerful Finnish folk opera *Juha* (tomorrow, 7.30pm). King's Theatre, Edinburgh (031 225575).

DANCE: Terracotta Army: The Chinese dance drama, based on the thousands of life-sized statues buried to guard the grave of Qin Shi Huang 2,000 years ago has two further performances in Edinburgh today, then moves to London for six performances. Playhouse, Edinburgh (031 225575); Royal Festival Hall (01-928 3191) Tues-Sep 5.

Theatre: Tony Patrick: Filas: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Music: David Sinclair; Jazz: Richard Williams; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Walks: Greta Carlaw; Televisions: Filas on TV; Radio: Peter Waymark; Photographers: Michael Young; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

BBC1 WALES 6.05-6.10pm Sports News Wales 6.05-6.10pm. 6.10-6.15pm. 6.15-6.20pm. 6.20-6.25pm. 6.25-6.30pm. 6.30-6.35pm. 6.35-6.40pm. 6.40-6.45pm. 6.45-6.50pm. 6.50-6.55pm. 6.55-7.00pm. 7.00-7.05pm. 7.05-7.10pm. 7.10-7.15pm. 7.15-7.20pm. 7.20-7.25pm. 7.25-7.30pm. 7.30-7.35pm. 7.35-7.40pm. 7.40-7.45pm. 7.45-7.50pm. 7.50-7.55pm. 7.55-8.00pm. 8.00-8.05pm. 8.05-8.10pm. 8.10-8.15pm. 8.15-8.20pm. 8.20-8.25pm. 8.25-8.30pm. 8.30-8.35pm. 8.35-8.40pm. 8.40-8.45pm. 8.45-8.50pm. 8.50-8.55pm. 8.55-9.00pm. 9.00-9.05pm. 9.05-9.10pm. 9.10-9.15pm. 9.15-9.20pm. 9.20-9.25pm. 9.25-9.30pm. 9.30-9.35pm. 9.35-9.40pm. 9.40-9.45pm. 9.45-9.50pm. 9.50-9.55pm. 9.55-10.00pm. 10.00-10.05pm. 10.05-10.10pm. 10.10-10.15pm. 10.15-10.20pm. 10.20-10.25pm. 10.25-10.30pm. 10.30-10.35pm. 10.35-10.40pm. 10.40-10.45pm. 10.45-10.50pm. 10.50-10.55pm. 10.55-11.00pm. 11.00-11.05pm. 11.05-11.10pm. 11.10-11.15pm. 11.15-11.20pm. 11.20-11.25pm. 11.25-11.30pm. 11.30-11.35pm. 11.35-11.40pm. 11.40-11.45pm. 11.45-11.50pm. 11.50-11.55pm. 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Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share

1759.8 (+4.7)

FT-SE 100

2249.7 (+3.9)

Bargains

28380 (30014)

USM (Datastream)

209.69 (+1.06)

THE POUND

US dollar

1.6305 (+0.0015)

W German mark

2.9569 (+0.0027)

Trade-weighted

72.5 (+0.2)

Goodison
orders
speed-up

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, has written to the institutions accusing them of late delivery of sold stock on the Friday before account day. He has ordered them to speed up their stock processing systems or face a delay in payment for sales of stock.

From September 21, the deadline for the delivery of sold stock will be brought forward from 1.30pm on the Friday before settlement day to 5pm on the Thursday. Failure to meet the deadline would mean being paid a day late.

Sir Nicholas says the decision is after discussions with the Bank of England.

The move is expected to help ease the significant problems in the stock market's settlement system since the explosion in business that accompanied Big Bank last October.

A special Stock Exchange Task Force found "a significant amount" of stock was delivered too late to be processed to meet the computerised Talisman delivery deadlines. As a result, the deal could not be settled on account day.

There is thus not only a shortage of stock, but also a financial problem for stockbrokers who, says Sir Nicholas, "would typically pay their institutional clients on account day", even if they had not been paid themselves.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	Dow Jones	2654.18 (-20.88)
Tokyo	Nikkei Dow	25974.96 (+6.18)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	3611.74 (+28.41)
Amsterdam	Gen	2163.5 (+7.6)
Sydney	AO	2163.5 (+7.6)
Frankfurt	Commerzbank	2013.5 (+12.7)
Brussels	General	5339.5 (+12.7)
Paris	CAC	426.0 (+0.5)
Zurich	SKA Gen	592.60 (-0.6)
London	FT-30 Share	1759.8 (+4.7)
FT-100		2249.7 (+3.9)
FT-30 Index		431.5 (-4.1)
FT-100 Index		92.58 (-0.18)
FT-100 Index		85.05 (+0.05)

Recent issues Page 26

Closing prices Page 28

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS:		
P&O	894p (+14p)	
GR	894p (+19p)	
Sun Alliance	374p (+24p)	
Bridon	208p (+15p)	
ML Holdings	942p (+30p)	
Press Tools	425p (+5p)	
Atlantic	738p (+25p)	
Western Motor	445p (+25p)	
President Ent	257p (+25p)	
BPOC	884p (+13p)	
Highgate & Job	895p (+70p)	
Stat-Plus	315p (+20p)	
Atwoods	395p (+30p)	
Acme Jewellery	217p (+24p)	
CCA Galleries	170p (+30p)	

FALLS:		
Morgan Grenfell	543p (-15p)	
Cleco	1730p (-40p)	
Mac Martin 'A'	1185p (-20p)	
Oliver Paper	180p (-25p)	
Pentland	217p (-24p)	

Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base:	10%
3-month interbank:	10-10.5%
3-month eligible bills:	10-10.5%
buying rate	
US: Prime Rate:	8.75%
Federal Funds:	6.75-6.875%
3-month Treasury Bills:	6.25-6.2625%
30-year bonds:	9.625-9.6375%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.6305	£: \$1.6310
£: DM1.5965	£: DM1.5965
£: SfrF2.4360	£: SfrF2.4360
£: FF6.0600	£: FF6.0600
£: Yen142.30	£: Yen142.30
£: Index: 72.5	£: Index: 101.1
ECU: £0.701159	SDR: £0.794551

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$455.90 pm \$453.40	
close \$453.50-454.00	(278.25-278.75)
New York:	
Comex \$453.60-454.10	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brant (Oct):	pm \$18.70/bbl (\$18.40)
Denotes latest trading price	

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Fixed-price offer for the public but institutions must make bids

Two-tier system
for BP share sale

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government yesterday confirmed that the sale of its one-third holding in BP will be split into a fixed-price offer for members of the public and existing shareholders — but that British institutions and overseas investors will have to submit written bids and will probably end up having to pay a higher price for some of the shares they want.

The Government's advisers are anxious that the sale to institutions and overseas buyers should not be described as a "tender" but rather an offer at a "determined" price.

They point out that it will be possible for two overseas investors to bid for precisely the same number of shares at the same price, but that one of their bids could be rejected.

The reason, according to the Treasury, is to prevent a sudden flowback of foreign-purchased shares to the London market, which would increase the volatility of the shares after the sale. The Government has also accepted BP's view that it should attempt to increase its shareholder profile in areas where it already operates, either as an oil producer or in the product marketplace.

The Treasury confirmed yesterday that the level of shares offered abroad will be higher than the 20 per cent

norm in previous privatizations — probably as much as 25 per cent — to meet the apparently insatiable demand for shares in BP by buyers in the United States and Japan.

At present BP has 250,000 shareholders, only 7 per cent of them overseas. The company would ultimately like to see as many as 25 per cent of the shares issued in foreign hands, reflecting its standing as the world's third largest oil company.

The Government's sale of its 31.5 per cent BP stake will be the biggest ever share sale aimed at the new breed of private investors it has created by its privatization programme. It will receive an



Mr Tony Alt, director of N M Rothschild, merchant bank handling the sale.

estimated £6 billion, in comparison to the £4 billion its holding was worth when the sale was first planned.

In addition, the sale will coincide with the company's rights issue of £1.5 billion of new shares, which will be offered at the same time. This means that although the Government will receive its income from the sale in three stages over a lengthy period — the proportions payable and the timing have yet to be announced — BP will receive its £1.5 billion as soon as trading starts.

This, says the company, will help it restore strength to its balance sheet after the purchase of its US subsidiary Standard Oil, and leave it well equipped to move for further new acquisitions — a fact which in itself will make its shares more attractive.

Mr Tony Alt, the director of N M Rothschild, the merchant bank handling the sale, said: "The decision by BP to raise new money and strengthen its balance sheet will increase its attraction to investors. Clearly, it would not have been practicable for there to have been two separate offers within a few months of each other. The arrangements are attractive to both BP and the Government."

Although the offer is aimed at increasing overseas hold-

ings, shares allocated for foreign buyers will be clawed back if the demand from small British investors is high.

The share sale is likely to be a runaway success because every investor who registers an interest in the company before the impact day, when the price is announced — likely to be October 15, with trading starting two weeks later — will be guaranteed an allocation. Existing shareholders will also be guaranteed new shares in relation to their holdings, including existing British institutional shareholders and holders of American Depositary Receipts in the US.

Each applicant will also be able to pay in three stages and be eligible for dividend payments in full as soon as shares are allocated.

Mr David Simon, BP managing director for finance, said: "BP is not only Britain's largest company, it is truly international. Over half our operations are overseas and well over half our sales and profits come from abroad. At present, though, only some 7 per cent of BP's shares are owned by overseas investors. We are keen to see this proportion increase, and the proposed offer structure is fully in line with this strategic aim."

Comment, page 27

'Modest' aid for dollar

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

European central banks yesterday stepped in to support the dollar although the intervention failed to lift the currency, still weighed down by worries over the US trade deficit.

The intervention, by the central banks of Germany, France and Switzerland, was described by dealers as a warning shot and modest in size. It was after overnight intervention in Tokyo by the Bank of Japan.

The dollar ended the day on a weak note and dealers predicted further selling pressure next week.

It closed little changed against the yen at Y142.15 and remained at a three-month low of DM1.8135 against the mark. Later in New York, the dollar dipped below DM1.81.

The pound, under some

downward pressure in recent days, gained against the dollar and European currencies. The sterling index rose by 0.2 points to 72.5, for a net fall on the week of just 0.1 points.

Sterling closed at \$1.6305, a gain of 15 points.

Finance ministers and central bankers of the leading seven economies are to meet in Washington at the end of

along with data released earlier this week showing an increase in Germany's trade surplus last month, and the belief that a further dollar fall is needed if trade imbalances are to be corrected.

There was also a surprise fall in Japan's unemployment rate last month to 2.7 per cent, from 3 per cent in June. The figures suggest that the Japanese economy is learning to cope with the yen at present levels.

The London financial markets were quiet yesterday, with little movement for either gilts or equities. The FT 30 share index rose 4.7 points to close at 1,759.8, for a gain on the week of 32.6 points.

The wider FT-SE 100 index rose 3.9 points to 2,249.7, a gain of 43.9 points, or 2 per cent, on the week.

Comment, page 27

Pentland
warning
hits price

By Alison Eadie

Shares in Pentland Industries, one of the stock market's most spectacular success stories of recent years, fell 30p to 211p before partially recovering yesterday on the announcement of production delays at Reebok, its 32 per cent-owned American associate.

The company gave a warning that recent labour unrest in South Korea, which accounts for 90 per cent of Reebok's production, will hold back third-quarter earnings per share to levels only slightly higher than the corresponding 1986 figure, 42 cents a share.

Mr Richard Stevens, a Pentland director, said his board knew nothing of the delays when it announced interim pretax profits up 16 per cent earlier this week.

Reebok's order book to the end of the year stands at more than \$520 million (£320 million) compared with \$390 million a year ago. American analysts have downgraded their estimates of the company's full-year earnings per share to \$1.50 from \$1.58, compared with \$1.28 in 1986.

Reebok, the largest supplier of athletic footwear in the United States with an estimated market share of 32 per cent, has fuelled dramatic growth at Pentland Industries. Pretax profits have risen from \$8.3 million in 1984 to \$77.3 million last year.

Reebok's progress, page 27

Two Suter plants to close

By Our City Staff

Intense competition in an over-supplied market has forced Suter to close its Francis Packaging oil and paint cans and drums operations at Greenwich in south London, and Wrexham, Clwyd.

Mr David Abell, the Suter chairman, said the company, brought as part of the Francis Industries acquisition in December 1984, faced financial losses in 1987 and "is no longer a viable business proposition."

Four hundred staff will lose their jobs when production ends in November, but Suter is not disclosing the extent of likely redundancy and other closure costs. "We expect them to be covered by the sale of the company's plant, equipment and stocks to Metal Box," said Mr Tony Paton-Walsh, the company secretary.

The six-acre site in Greenwich is being retained in case residential planning permission can be obtained.

Francis was the smallest of three main participants in the British drum market — it had about 20 per cent compared to about 60 per cent shared by the big two, Metal Box and National Can. Sales fell from £20 million to £18 million in 1986, when the company "barely broke even." With a further decline in turnover this year, and increasing pressures on margins, financial losses were "inevitable," the company said.

Pleasurama makes Earl a millionaire seven times over

A £64m American theme tune

By Colin Campbell

Mr Robert Earl, aged 36, chairman and managing director of President Entertainment and son of Robert Earl, the 1950s crooner, became a millionaire in 1984.

He moved into the £7.15 million bracket yesterday when Pleasurama made an agreed £64.4 million bid for his President Entertainment group. He holds 2.6 million shares in President, brought to the USM in 1984, graduating to a full listing.

The company operates 65 restaurants in Britain and in Orlando, Florida, many of them with "theme evenings."

For Pleasurama the deal brings a new core business and takes it firmly into the vast American catering and leisure market. It is in line with group policy and further reduces the incidence and investment colour of casino interests with which Pleasurama has been primarily associated.

It will also bring fresh and younger management to Pleasurama which, in time, the stock market should not fail to notice.

Pleasurama shares were unchanged at 189p yesterday. President shares advanced from 241p to 267p.

Mr Nat Solomon, Pleasurama's chairman, said the tie-up with the restaurant



Soft drink toast: Stuart Lee (left) and Robert Earl

and entertainment group President was a "giant stride forward. If you want to be taken seriously in the leisure market, you must go into the United States."

The deal with President is on the basis of 13 Pleasurama shares for every nine President shares held, with a cash alternative worth 265p a President share.

Mr Earl and other directors are to take Pleasurama shares rather than cash, giving Pleasurama an initial "yes" undertaking from 13.1 per cent of President's issued equity.

Mr Earl, President's chair-

man and managing director, will be responsible for expanding the enlarged group's US operations. He said he was anxious to develop Pleasurama's UK hotel interests. He has turned down a main board seat at Pleasurama and opted instead to take a 12.5 per cent stake in a new subsidiary, Newco, requiring a personal cash outlay of £2 million.

There will be options which give him the opportunity to increase his equity stake to a maximum 20 per cent.

Newco will hold and develop all the existing US subsidiaries of President and

has been earmarked for the overseas expansion of the enlarged group. Pleasurama's overseas operations are mainly in Spain.

The financial details of Newco and the incentives for Mr Earl have yet to be announced, but Mr Solomon said he would "have to earn what he is getting and there are some stiff growth targets which have been set."

Pleasurama will subscribe for an 87.5 per cent stake in Newco for a cash investment of £14 million and has committed itself to provide or procure adequate funding for its development.

Last Monday Pleasurama announced interim profits of £16.27 million compared with £19.21 million, a fall it blamed largely on a £3.5 million drop in trading profits from its London casinos. In the six months to June 28, Maxim's, the most select of the company's five London casinos, made a loss, thus leaving it to the group's non-casino interests — for the first time in the company's history — to generate the bulk of profits.

Pleasurama is anxious, through growth within its other interests, to lessen the incidence of casino profits and therefore improve the quality of earnings and its market profile.

GP may
seek
white
knight

By Michael Tate

The gloves are coming off in the battle for control of Guinness Peat Group.

As Mr Alastair Morton, the chairman of the company, was shelving its controversial plan to introduce a management incentive scheme at its merchant banking subsidiary Guinness Mahon, he attacked the position of Equiticorp, the bidder, as a "detrimental to the business of Guinness Peat and unacceptable to the group and its management."

The group makes it clear that it is exploring all other options, including the possibility of unearthing a white knight rival bidder.

Mr Morton's statement came only hours before the full offer document from Equiticorp, the British subsidiary of Equiticorp, which is based in New Zealand, was despatched to Guinness Peat shareholders.

The scheme, which would reward an incoming team of eight bankers with up to £50 million if certain profits targets are met, had been challenged in the courts by Equiticorp.

An injunction preventing the implementation of the scheme had been granted a week ago and was extended on Thursday for a further seven days while Guinness Peat completed its evidence.

However, Mr Morton, who wants to remove all distractions from centre stage while the bid is in play, now says the proposals "will not be finalized until the future management and control of the whole of Guinness Peat Group has been resolved."

Equiticorp, which owns 35.6 per cent of Guinness Peat, has offered 110p in cash for the rest of the shares, valuing the entire group at £338 million, a bid that has been declared "wholly inadequate" by the Guinness Peat board.

The Equiticorp camp was, however, scornful of Guinness Peat finding a white knight last night. Its stake in Guinness Peat had been up for sale for some months with no takers before it moved in.

TKM bid fails

The offer by Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn for Molins has lapsed with TKM owing or having acceptances for 28.9 per cent of Molins shares.

No referral

The proposed acquisition by FKI Electricals of Babcock International will not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

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COMPANY IN THE NEWS

Reebok's runaway success on the road from Bolton

By Alison Eadie

The remarkable success of Reebok sports shoes in America makes it easy to forget that the first running shoe was made in Bolton, Lancashire in 1895.

A little Union Jack placed on each Reebok shoe is a reminder of the company's origins. Some production of specialist running shoes still takes place in Bolton, although 90 per cent of Reebok's output now comes from South Korea.

Mr Joseph Foster of Bolton, himself a runner, made the original spikes to his own specification. The family company continued production and in 1958 the Reebok name was adopted.

The United States connection was made in 1979, when Mr Paul Fireman saw the shoe being exhibited in Chicago and negotiated the American rights. He began manufacturing in the Far East while paying a royalty back to Bolton.

Mr Fireman's lack of funds and lack of experience with Far East sourcing led to the involvement of Pentland Industries, the British company, which bought a 55 per cent



Stephen Rubin: received a great business opportunity

stake in the American Reebok in 1981. It presented Mr Stephen Rubin, chairman of Pentland, with one of the greatest business opportunities of his life.

1983 \$65 million in 1984 and then exploded to \$307 million in 1985 and \$919 million last year.

Reebok also makes tennis, basketball, fitness and running shoes, and even non-athletic shoes for children going under the cute name of Weebok.

Its successes include Lord Burghley of *Chariots of Fire* fame and more recently Steve Jones, the Welsh marathon runner.

As the American company grew, the payment of royalties to Bolton became a case of the tail wagging the dog, and the American company bought in the British company in 1984.

In 1985 Reebok was floated on the over-the-counter stock market in America and has since moved up to the "Big Board" in New York. Pentland has gradually reduced its holding to 32 per cent.

Reebok's estimated share of the branded athletic footwear market in the US is a hefty 32 per cent. Its nearest competitor is Nike with an estimated 20 per cent, followed by Converse (8 per cent), Adidas (6 per cent) and Puma (3 per cent).

Reebok is now looking to extend its empire worldwide.

The American market then started to take off, propelled by the aerobic boom. Sales in 1981 were a lowly \$1.3 million (\$800,000). They rose to \$5 million in 1982, \$12 million in

Dividend this year from Peek

By Colin Campbell

Peek Holdings, previously a shell company now being revitalized by Mr Kenneth Maud, the South African industrialist, is likely to pay its first dividend in a decade when the year-end results are to hand.

In the six months to June 30, Peek earned pretax profits of £869,000 compared with a pro forma £752,000 on a turnover of £5.22 million (£4.99 million).

The balance sheet is unimpaired and cash holdings are currently in excess of £2 million. The group will continue to expand by organic growth and further diversification into medium and high technology niche markets.

The board says the outlook for the year is good, with performance well up to expectations. Peek recently acquired Husky Computers.

Peek expects to recommend a final dividend based on results for the full financial year, the board added. The shares rose 3p to 117p in early dealings yesterday.

French group pays £14.9m for CPU

By Our City Staff

SCOA, a French company listed in Paris, is to pay £14.9 million for CPU Computers, a distributor of computer peripheral equipment operating mainly in Britain and West Germany.

The offer of 92p a share has been accepted by Mr DE Johns and Mr TAI Fitzpatrick, the joint chairmen and managing directors of CPU and the trustees of their family trusts, for 56.86 per cent of CPU shares.

SCOA is a French holding company engaged in a variety of activities worldwide. Since 1985 it has diversified into high-technology products including the distribution of computer hardware and software and professional services.

N Brown double buy

N Brown, the direct mail order company headed by Mr David Alliance, the chairman, has bought Hartington House and Aldrex, also mail order businesses, for about £3 million.

Hartington sells a range of clothing, household and garden products. Its sales for

the 18 months to the end of March totalled £8 million and pretax profits were £125,000. Depending on profits to August 27 next, the maximum payment for the company will be £2.6 million.

Aldrex, which supplies lingerie and dresses, had pretax profits of £82,000 last year.

Adam lifts profit to £438,000

By Alison Eadie

Adam & Company, the Scottish banking company named after the eighteenth century Scottish economist Adam Smith, yesterday announced annual pretax profits to end-June of £438,000 compared with £112,000 previously.

The results include a nine-month contribution from the London operation in Pall Mall, acquired when Adam took over the Continental Trust last September.

Total assets have risen to £53 million from £41 million at end-December and loans and advances reached £15.7 million from £11 million. The company has positive reserves for the first time, enabling it to consider paying a first dividend next year.

The investment management business has expanded and discretionary portfolios under management total £20 million. A personal equity plan will be launched shortly.

The company has established an office in Glasgow but does not plan other branches. In spite of the London operation, most customers remain Scots.

Record £67m profit for Li

From Stephen Leather Hong Kong

Mr Li Ka Shing, the Hong Kong businessman, yesterday announced record interim profits for his Hutchison Whampoa empire, up 63 per cent after tax to HK\$862 million (£67.55 million) for the six months ending June.

Mr Li is reaping the benefits of a property boom in the crown colony and his profits were further boosted by a HK\$250 million extraordinary item representing the sale of property and other investment holdings.

Mr Simon Murray, Hutchison's managing director, said HK\$250 million of the extraordinary came from the sale of the group's stake in the South China Morning Post to Mr Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation and HK\$50 million represented half the profit from the sale of Hutchison's shares in Pearson, publishers of the *Financial Times*.

The figures were at the top end of the market expectations.

Shareholders will get a dividend of 11 per cent a share, an increase of 29 per cent. Earnings per share were 32c a share before and 51c after extraordinary items.

Mr Li's property company Cheung Kong Holdings yesterday announced interim net profits before extraordinary items of HK\$585 million (£47 million).

But there were extraordinary items totalling HK\$22.8 million which took total net profits to HK\$47.9 million, an increase of 110 per cent over last year.

Swire Pacific jumps 91%

Swire Pacific, the trading group, yesterday revealed pretax profits up 91 per cent to HK\$1.95 billion (£156 million) for the first half of 1987.

Turnover was up 34 per cent to HK\$9.48 billion and profits were boosted by a strong local property market, and soaring results from Hong Kong's airline, Cathay Pacific, which is 50.23 per cent owned by Swire Pacific.

The interim dividend per share was raised from 15c to 19c on A shares, and from 3c to 3.8c on B shares.

Mr Michael Miles, the chairman, said results of the trading division were "sharply higher," that the profits of the industry division were "slightly lower" and that shipping and offshore activities "remained generally dull".

COMMENT

Frenetic dealers go to sleep but not for long

What a difference a week makes on the stock market. After three weeks of fluctuating hysteria for shares, the dealers gradually nodded off to sleep last week as the Bank Holiday weekend approached. Over the week as a whole, the FT-SE 100 share index recovered by 34 points after the previous week's drop of almost 100 points. But all the action, such as it was, came on Monday and Tuesday.

It was, to be sure, the first week of the three-week August Bank Holiday account, traditionally the quietest trading period of the year, as the beaches beckon. This year that comes as something of a relief and a moment for thought between poolside cocktails.

Last week's relapse into somnolence was, however, also a case of no news being good news. One of the lessons of August has been to discover how vulnerable the new system of trading is to shocks, when business is thin and many wise old heads away.

Prices have to be changed instantly in response to any piece of financial news, because they are all displayed, for the world to compare minute by minute. There are even computer programmes to make sure one market-making firm's prices are not far out of line with others. So follow-up leader has taken over even more from the independent-minded bookmaker.

Prices, therefore, change more rapidly

across the board than in the old days of the jobbers' precautionary markups and markdowns. And a much larger proportion of trading — roughly half — is now between the market-making firms themselves. This incestuous dealing exposes anyone out of line and can leave him or her with rapid losses (as well as big profits). Once prices move, he who moves furthest tends to lead the market.

This panic tendency may be tested again on Tuesday, when the July trade figures will be awaited with fingers poised over the buttons of computer terminals. The May figures brought selling and the June figures boosted a recovery in prices. Few dealers will be asleep on Tuesday morning.

It remains to be seen, however, if this increased volatility will continue when domestic and international trading is more active and the counter-speculators make their presence felt. The message from the currency markets is that it will, and that investors will need to become more blasé about share price movements.

That will not stop price shocks being disruptive, adding to the expense of important parts of the securities business, such as raising share capital. But, barring unstable financial conditions, see-sawing share prices are unlikely to do as much damage as yo-yoing exchange rates.

Taxpayer first in BP sale

When is a tender not a tender?

Answer: When the Government says so. Yesterday's news from merchant banker NM Rothschild was that its client, the Government, is to sell its shares in BP in two stages. There will be a conventional fixed price offer for existing holders and small shareholders in Britain. Then there will be another for institutions and overseas buyers at a price confidently expected to be somewhat higher than the first sale.

The price to be paid by these largely professional investors will, says Rothschild, reflect demand for BP shares in various markets. Without saying so in as many words, the Government has decided to operate a tender style exercise for the reasons outlined here yesterday — that it needs to be seen to maximize the sale proceeds for political reasons and it knows very well that institutions are typically underweight in their holdings of BP since the largest shareholder, HMG, owns more than 30 per cent of the company.

The international offer, as the sale to professionals is to be known, has a number of unusual and welcome features about it. The most striking is the procedure which will be used to prevent what has become known in merchant bankers' argot as "flowback".

Would-be buyers will be asked to offer at whatever price they favour. The applications will be vetted by Rothschild for quality as well as price. The quality test will be aimed at assessing the likely levels of flowback and as far as possible chocking it off in the process of pricing and allotment.

The approach shows a greater acceptance of the Government's responsibility to get the best deal for the taxpayer from sales of state assets. Cynics may not be surprised at this post-election development. But it is merely a step in the right direction and there is certainly further to go. The charge yet to be satisfactorily answered is that the Government has, partly through its policy of promoting wider share ownership, built in an element of giveaway to the private investor at the expense of the taxpayer.

Further, this has been carried out in a way not necessarily of benefit to the cause of people's capitalism. It is true that there are many more share owners than there used to be. But there are even greater numbers of new ex-share owners who have been encouraged to believe that investment is about short-term speculation in the latest state sale. Tackling this is the next step along the road to wider share ownership.

TEMPUS

High-rise Randsworth needs to underpin its foundations

This time last year most property analysts turned up their noses at USM-quoted Randsworth Trust. Now few can afford to. It has roared up the ranks of the property sector in a matter of months and now, capitalized at about £200 million on a fully diluted basis, it is nestling among the sector's top 20.

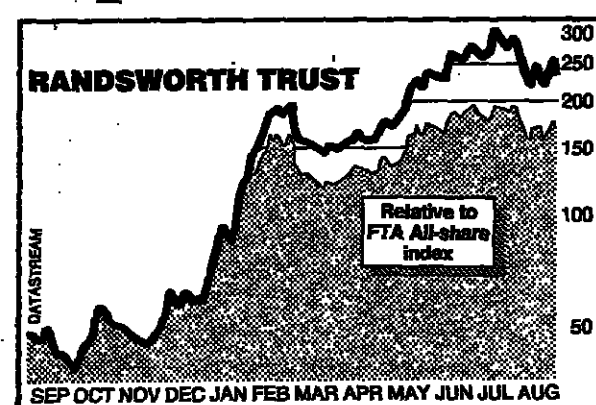
Randsworth was known as Jayplant in its youth and made a meagre living as a plant-hire contractor. But last year, it came to the attention of a team of young turks, Mr David Holland, Mr Andrew Nichols and Mr Tony Brayford, who had other plans for it. They moved in and took control and the shares have scarcely looked back.

Admittedly, the resurrection in interest in the property sector has helped, as did the new team's track record in this field. Mr Holland, a lawyer, had more than 20 years' experience as a property negotiator and planner, while the other two worked at Brixton Estate, where Mr Nichols was finance director. Nevertheless, the speed at which Randsworth has forced itself upon the investment community has raised a few eyebrows.

At the base of the Randsworth transformation is a soon-to-be-finished, £37 million development in Wilson Street in an up-and-coming part of the City of London. It has just been let at £42.50 a square foot, more than double Randsworth's initial projections.

The rest of the portfolio has been bought in a series of deals — two of which involved bidding for quoted companies. London & Provincial Shop and Apex Properties, for a total of £64 million. Otherwise, batches of properties have been bought from established players in the market. By this method Randsworth has built up a £200 million-plus portfolio, two-thirds of which is in the buoyant West End.

Recently, however, the deals have been financed by a considerable amount of pap-



er of various sorts as well as cash. The recent introduction of a high-yielding convertible may also take attention away from the ordinary shares, as may the 8.25 per cent — and rising — stake in Lynton Property & Reversionary, a company about the same size as Randsworth.

Results for 1987 are due at the end of September although next year and 1989 are when the real money will begin to be earned. Pretax profits of £8.5 million and £10.5 million respectively are not out of the question.

The shares are selling in line with the asset value, which allows nothing for the above-average management. Some may feel, however, that Randsworth may spoil things by continuing to move so fast. A quiet period corporately would not, therefore, go amiss.

Viking Resources

The antipodeans' uncanny ability to pick British stocks is almost self-evident. You can be sure that when Messrs Bond or Brierley start to build up stakes in companies, a bandwagon effect will develop.

Certainly there is an element of this in the shares of Viking Resources Trust, where the New Zealander Mr Ron Brierley built up a 16 per cent interest, followed by the Australian Mr Alan Bond who now has 15 per cent.

What they saw was an investment trust which, because it was followed by

the investment trust analysts, was valued on the stock market at the traditional investment trust discount.

However, Viking is no ordinary investment trust.

True, it still has £28 million of quoted investments. However, its recent investment strategy has been to invest up to half its portfolio in unquoted US natural gas production companies.

The theory is that the US gas price, currently \$1.50/mcf (million or thousand cubic feet), should be closer to \$2.50/mcf to match the oil price on a thermal equivalence basis.

The gas price is taking longer to show signs of rising than Viking's managers had hoped for. However, it has given them an opportunity to acquire £12 million worth of unquoted companies at multiples of only three times cashflow compared with the industry average for quoted companies of nearer eight.

The recent rise in Viking's share price means that the shares are standing at a 20 per cent premium to net asset value. But this does not reflect the value of the gas companies if they were given a market multiple or if the gas price rose.

The shares still look good value.

Mowlem

Looking for something to do on bank holiday Monday? Well, how about a ride on London's new Docklands Light Railway which will be

open to the public on that morning for the first time?

The railway's progress has been followed with interest by close-at-hand City analysts, particularly those who track the fortunes of Mowlem, joint contractor with much larger GEC, on the DLR contract.

So recent unfounded rumours of operational problems, delays and penalty payments knocked Mowlem's share price which was already looking vulnerable.

A great deal of Mowlem's future profits are dependent on docklands related activity as, among other things, it is the main contractor and future operator of the docklands STOLport, short takeoff and landing airport, which will open to commercial traffic in October.

Mowlem's shares have underperformed the market, by nearly 10 per cent in the last month, but the 20 per cent plus underperformance of the last year is due to more far reaching concerns.

Mowlem has changed the mix of its business in the last couple of years by buying SGB, the scaffolding and plant hire service business, and by moving into the property and housebuilding sectors.

The benefits from this change of emphasis have not yet flown through to the bottom line, although the constituent businesses are all apparently trading well.

The yield has become, therefore more of an attraction than the earnings growth.

The shares may have further to fall before they look genuinely cheap on fundamentals since on this year's estimates of £48 million, they are selling on 13 times earnings.

But for those who do not mind missing out on the last few pennies on the downside, this may be a good time to tuck a few away for the longer term. The spread of businesses should now protect the group if the building market came off the boil.

PENNY SHARE FOCUS WINNER: NO. 53

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The latest share in a long line of recent Penny Share winners is ACSIS JEWELLERY — that makes over 50 doubles during the last year.

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After giving them a Five Star speculative rating last June at 15p and tipping them again in November, we recently spotted some unusual activity in the share price and reported to subscribers on June 4th:

"One way to see which shares are on the move is to check the new highs every day. That's what drew ACSIS JEWELLERY to our attention again, as it started moving into new high ground. You may recall that we mentioned them twice before here in PSF. In both instances drawing your attention to the obvious "shell" potential of this little retailer with a somewhat indifferent record. Right now, we know of no special reason why their shares should be high and our instinct is that something must be up. Which is why we suggest it could well be worth climbing on board now if you don't already have any of their shares."

Shortly after that, a thriving new entrepreneur moved in to the company and the share price soared from 31p to 43p in less than a month.

Imagine you had invested £500 at the beginning of June, you could have shared a \$6.76 profit in just three short weeks! Your only effort, just the two phone calls you would have made to buy and then sell the shares.

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Sharna Ware	40p	255p	+476%
Hambroside Eln.	14p	65p	+467%
Energy Capital	15p	101p	+461%
Talbot	81p	472p	+459%
Hughes Foods	32p	155p	+384%

(Prices as at 2nd July 1987)

Of course, if you had the time, and the know-how you could isolate the potential winners and then complete a thorough investigation of the company.

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GOOD?

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In some cases the company may be restructured, new management installed, new products launched, new ideas and techniques introduced. Alternatively, the company's shares may be so cheap that a rival company moves in to take them over. Or a successful private company might buy them out as a cheap way in to the stockmarket. Whatever happens, it's nearly always good news for the investor who was brave enough to buy when the company was down.

Remember, these companies are still trading and they often have quite sizeable assets. Apart from the very few that do go to the wall — and they're really surprisingly few — the only way a share price that has fallen to mere pennies can go up is...

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Please pay to National Westminster Bank PLC (60-06-117), 31 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AN for the account of Penny Share Focus. A/C No: 55661215, the sum of £26.50 on receipt of this order and thereafter £26.50 on the same date each year until countermanded by me.

Date..... Signed.....

TIN/29/8

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UNIT TRUSTS

IMPORTANT
Building Society
Investors Please Read

With over one thousand unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each: Recovery Fund for capital growth, Dividend Fund for an increasing income, and SECOND General for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income and a yield about 50% higher than the FT Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE: Value of £10,000 invested at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 23rd May 1964, compared with a similar investment in a Building Society

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
6 May '64	-	-	£10,000	£10,000
1965	£396	£536	10,396	10,536
1970	463	650	10,463	10,650
1975	223	871	10,223	10,871
1980	1,650	1,200	11,650	10,200
1985	2,778	907	12,778	10,907
1 Aug '87	3,200	683*	12,300	10,683

NOTES All income figures shown are net of basic rate tax. The Building Society income figures are 10% above the average of the rates offered in each year (Source: Building Societies Association). M&G Dividend capital figures are all realisation values. * Estimated for the year.

Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G SECOND General Trust aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 31-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE: Value of £10,000 invested at the launch of M&G SECOND General on 23rd May 1956, with net income reinvested

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	FT ORDINARY INDEX	RETAIL PRICE INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
1960	15,520	20,080	12,223	12,453
1965	21,320	26,230	13,492	16,083
1970	46,480	30,540	17,143	21,636
1975	79,840	39,620	23,107	31,651
1980	158,400	51,500	31,507	43,211
1985	248,000	78,240	38,518	78,580
1 Aug '87	1,302,520	302,840	51,066	87,970*

NOTES All income figures shown are net of basic rate tax. The Building Society income figures are based on an index of interest rates offering 10% above the average yearly rate (Source: Building Societies Association). M&G SECOND General figures are all realisation values. * Estimated.

INVESTMENT FROM £1,000

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, MAG HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1FB. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the fund(s) of your choice (minimum investment in each fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION (income units) or INCOME (income units). Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and income units will be issued for Dividend at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

A contract will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

RECOVERY DIVIDEND SECOND
DIVIDEND £ 00
DIVIDEND £ 00
DIVIDEND £ 00

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
POST CODE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: _____

M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, MAG HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1FB. ADVISORY SERVICES: 01-526 4568. Member of the Unit Trust Association.

THE M&G GROUP

FAMILY MONEY INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

KEY RATES

	Nominal rate	Compounded return at tax rates	Min/max investment	Notice	Contact
BANKS					
Ordinary Dep A/c	3.75	3.79	2.86	2.08	1 min 0-7 day
Girobank	3.00	3.02	2.28	1.65	1 min 7 day
Fixed Term Deposits:					
National Westminster	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	10,000-24,999 1 mth
" "	7.13	7.13	5.37	3.91	10,000-24,999 6 mth
" "	6.21	6.21	4.68	3.40	10,000-24,999 1 mth
" "	6.87	6.87	5.18	3.76	10,000-24,999 6 mth
Midland	6.87	6.87	5.18	3.76	10,000-24,999 6 mth

BUILDING SOCIETIES					
Ordinary A/c	5.00	5.06	3.81	2.77	1 min
Britannia	7.15	7.15	5.39	3.92	250 min
Bradford & Bingley	7.50	7.50	5.65	4.11	1,000 min
Cheltenham & Gloucester	7.75	7.75	5.84	4.25	5,000 min
Nationwide Non-Resid?	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	1 min

MONEY FUNDS					
Aitken Hume Monthly Inc	6.96	7.18	5.41	3.93	1,000 min
Allied Arab HICA	7.34	7.59	5.72	4.16	3,000 min
Bank of Scotland	6.84	7.07	5.33	3.87	2,500 min
Barclays High Rate Dep	8.75	6.92	5.42	3.94	1,000 min
" "	7.00	7.19	5.12	3.72	2,500 min
Britannia High Interest	6.58	6.79	5.04	3.56	2,000 min
Citibank Money Mkt Plus	7.50	7.64	5.76	4.19	5,000 min
HFC Trust & Savings	6.84	7.07	5.33	3.87	2,500 min
Henderson Overseas A/c	7.38	7.48	4.88	3.55	1,000 min
L & C High Int Deposit	7.50	7.50	5.65	4.11	5,000 min
Lloyds Investment A/c?	5.50	5.64	4.25	3.09	1,000 min
M&G HICA	6.49	6.68	5.03	3.66	2,500 min
Midland HICA	6.80	7.17	5.08	3.67	1,000 min
" "	7.00	7.19	5.42	3.94	10,000 min
Nat West Special Reserve	6.88	7.05	5.42	3.94	10,000 min
" "	6.88	7.19	5.42	3.94	1,000 min
Oppenheimer Money Mgmt	6.77	6.94	5.28	3.80	10,000 min
Phillips & Drew HICA	6.96	7.14	5.38	3.91	2,500 min
Provincial Trust Chg A/c	7.53	7.80	5.88	4.27	1,000 min
Royal Bk of Scot Prem A/c	6.77	6.95	5.24	3.81	2,500 min
S & P Classic	6.50	6.72	5.06	3.68	500 min
Schroder Wegg	6.40	6.59	4.97	3.61	2,500 min
Tyndall Call	6.99	7.15	5.39	3.92	2,500 min
UT 7-day	6.77	6.95	5.24	3.81	5,000 min
Western Trust	7.06	7.29	5.49	3.99	2,500 min

NATIONAL SAVINGS					
Ordinary A/c	6.00	6.17	4.65	3.38	1-10,000 8 day
Investment A/c	10.00	7.30	5.60	4.00	5-10,000 1 mth
Income Bond	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	2,000-100,000 3 mth
Deposit Bond	10.50	7.67	5.78	4.20	100-100,000 3 mth
Indexed Income Bond	8.00	5.84	4.40	3.20	5,000-100,000 3 mth
3rd Issue Cert?	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	25-1,000 8 day
Yearly Plan	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	20-200/mth 14 day
General Extension Rate?	7.02	7.02	7.02	7.02	
Retail Price Index	10.14	10.14	10.14	10.14	

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS					
FPS (Management) Ltd	9.10	9.10	7.46	6.10	1,000 min 1 yr
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.80	8.80	7.27	5.98	1,000 min 2 yrs
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.80	8.80	7.27	5.98	1,000 min 3 yrs
FPS (Management) Ltd	8.80	8.80	7.27	5.98	1,000 min 4 yrs
Canterbury Life	8.50	8.50	6.97	5.70	1,000 min 5 yrs

LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS					
Kirklees	6.75	6.75	5.09	3.70	500 min 1 yr
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 2 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 3 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 4 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 5 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 6 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 7 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 8 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 9 yrs
Bristol	7.25	7.25	5.46	3.97	1,000 min 10 yrs

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS					
Sterling	8.58				7 day
US Dollar	5.83				7 day
Yen	2.76				7 day
D Mark	2.77				7 day
French Franc	6.51				7 day
Swiss Franc	2.40				7 day

Retail Prices Index (July '86 to July '87)

+4.4

Mortgage rate*
11.25%

Bank base rate
10%

Bank prime overdraft rate*
13%-18% APR

Personal loan rate
19.7% APR

Credit card rate*
23.8% APR

Hire purchase rate*
28% APR

Bank deposit account
3.75%

Building society ordinary account
5%

High-interest cheque account*
6.80%

Holiday exchange rates*

Spanish peseta 94.25
French franc 9.70
Greek drachma 217
Italian lira 2105

* Typical rates
* APR - annual percentage rate
* APR - annual percentage rate

FUND OFFERS

Fidelity.....page 25

M & G.....page 30

Abbey.....page 31

Fidelity.....page 31, 32

Mercury.....page 32

Saracen.....page 34

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.50%
Adam & Company	10.00%
BCCI	10.00%
Consolidated Crds	10.00%
Co-operative Bank	10.00%
G. Hoare & Co	10.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.00%
Lloyds Bank	10.00%
Nat Westminster	10.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.00%
TSB	10.00%
Citibank NA	10.00%

WEEK

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page 32

page 32

page 34

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Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

THE WEEK

Here's a fine por
vintage..... page 32A nuisance for
a neighbour..... 32The world of
unit trusts..... 32School in — here
come the bills..... 34BP to fix price
for individuals

In the forthcoming sale, shares in BP will be sold at a fixed price to private individuals and existing shareholders, while the price for City institutions and overseas investors will reflect the level of demand.

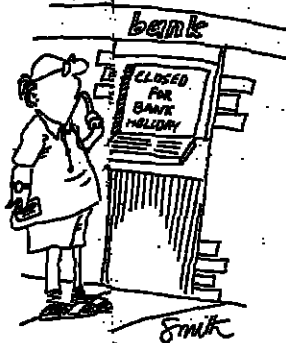
Payments will be in three instalments and there will be a clawback arrangement to ensure that the number of shares offered to the public can be increased.

More than 500,000 inquiries have already been made through the BP Share Information Office (tel: 0272-272 272).

In the red

The Midland Bank is standardising overdrafts. From September 1, personal customers wanting to overdraw for up to six months will apply for a ChequeOver. Any amount up to £3,000 will be considered. Interest will be at a fixed rate, currently 1.5 per cent a month (APR 19.2).

Borrowers will pay an arrangement fee of £10 for amounts up to £1,000, plus £5 for each additional £500. Transaction charges will be on top. With this in mind, where possible, some borrowing for six months should consider a personal loan, which costs 10 per cent, ie a 6-month personal loan of £250 or more, the APR is 18.



Society event

The meet between the Nationwide and Anglia building societies comes into effect on September 1. The new society — Britain's third biggest — will be known as Nationwide Anglia. It will have more than 900 branches, five million investors and about a million borrowers.

A bad week for the Government's plans to help investors

Protection too late?

THE ACT

When a Conservative MP complains to a ministerial colleague about the Government's failure to achieve investor protection within the time scale already promised, it is right for the rest of us to be concerned.

It was in such terms that Robert McCrindle wrote to the Consumer Affairs Minister, Francis Maude, on Thursday to express concern that investor protection will not be achieved until the Financial Services Act has been fully implemented.

Mr McCrindle's intervention was prompted by Francis Maude's announcement earlier this week that the Government planned to make it a criminal offence for investment firms to carry on business from April next year unless they were properly authorised.

Though Mr Maude's announcement was cleverly packaged as a routine timetable, it is clear that the

Trying to catch
the sharks

Government's investor protection plans are at least three months behind schedule. Robert McCrindle is in no doubt that this is the case and in his letter to Francis Maude he only just stops short of accusing his own Government of misleading him.

So what now? The immediate impact of the delay is that the cowboys and sharks of the financial advice world now have an extra three months to play their tricks on an unsuspecting public without the fear of a jail sentence if they are caught. It is the cowboys and sharks whose activities the legislation is designed to curb and it is the cowboys and sharks who give most honest financial advisers a thoroughly bad name.

That is bad enough but the danger remains that the delay could extend beyond three months. Indeed, the complexity of the bureaucratic hurdles that have to be jumped between now and next April makes further delays quite possible.

This is because the structure of the new law envisages a Government-approved chief regulator, called the Securities and Investments Board, to approve detailed rule books from no fewer than five so-called self-regulating organizations (SROs) whose task will be to police their own sector of the financial services world on a day-to-day basis.

One of the SROs, the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organization, (Lautro) has only just finalized its rule book. Not only does the securities board have to scrutinize the rule books, the rules will also have to be approved by the Office of Fair Trading.

On top of all the bureau-



Robert McCrindle, left, and Francis Maude: when will private investors be protected?

cracy there is the sheer scale of work involved in approving several thousand firms of investment advisers up and down the country.

Mr Maude is right to stress the importance of pressing ahead fast so that investors can benefit from the protection of the legislation. But it is imperative that the Government be unrelenting in the pressure it now exerts to make sure this happens by next April. Otherwise it will justifiably be accused of failing to back up its bland assurances.

But if the Government has become bogged down on the Financial Services Act, it can take no comfort from the fact that its problems have ramifications beyond that single piece of legislation.

The biggest disappointment flowing from the slow progress of investor protection laws is a six-month delay, also announced this week, in the start of personal pensions.

This is particularly humiliating for the Government because the personal pensions revolution has been the cornerstone of its social-security reform programme started by Norman Fowler more than two years ago.

Personal pensions will not now be available until next July, either as an option for the 10 million people who pay into the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme (Serps) or for the 11 million occupational pension scheme members who might want to take a personal pension as an alternative to their employer's plan.

Industry bodies representing pension funds and insurance organizations welcomed the breathing space afforded by the six-month wait. But some individual companies were less than enthusiastic about having their plans postponed.

Legal & General's pensions director, Chris Hatry, expressed disappointment, saying his company was geared up to start marketing personal pensions from January next year. It was the same story from N. M. Rothschild Asset Management, which will be one of the new entrants to the personal pensions field. The Prudential said the delay would create further confusion in the public's mind.

Confusion there may be but the DHSS minister Michael Portillo has promised there will be no change in the right to backdate membership of a contracted-out personal pension to April 6, 1987. So, people taking out a personal pension before 6 April 1989 will still be able to have the extra year's National Insurance rebate and incentive payment.

Problems with
the Revenue

The six-month delay is also a chance for government departments to co-ordinate their own thinking on personal pensions. So far, this has been dismally lacking. The Institute of Actuaries, not usually a body given to anything but the most innocuous statements, says there is conflict between the Inland Revenue and the DHSS.

The Occupational Pensions

Peter Gartland

OPEN ALL BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

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Orders Up.
Profits Up.
Economy Up.

Fidelity
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Situations
Trust
Up 1,220%.

*Offer to offer from launch 17.12.79 to 27.8.87

**Offer to bid, net income reinvested, from launch 17.12.79 to 27.8.87

Source: Fidelity

Callfree Fidelity
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A WEEKTo: Fidelity Investment Services Limited, PO Box 80, River Walk, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1DY.
Please send me details of Fidelity Special Situations Trust without delay.Full name Mr. Mrs. Miss
(Block letters please)

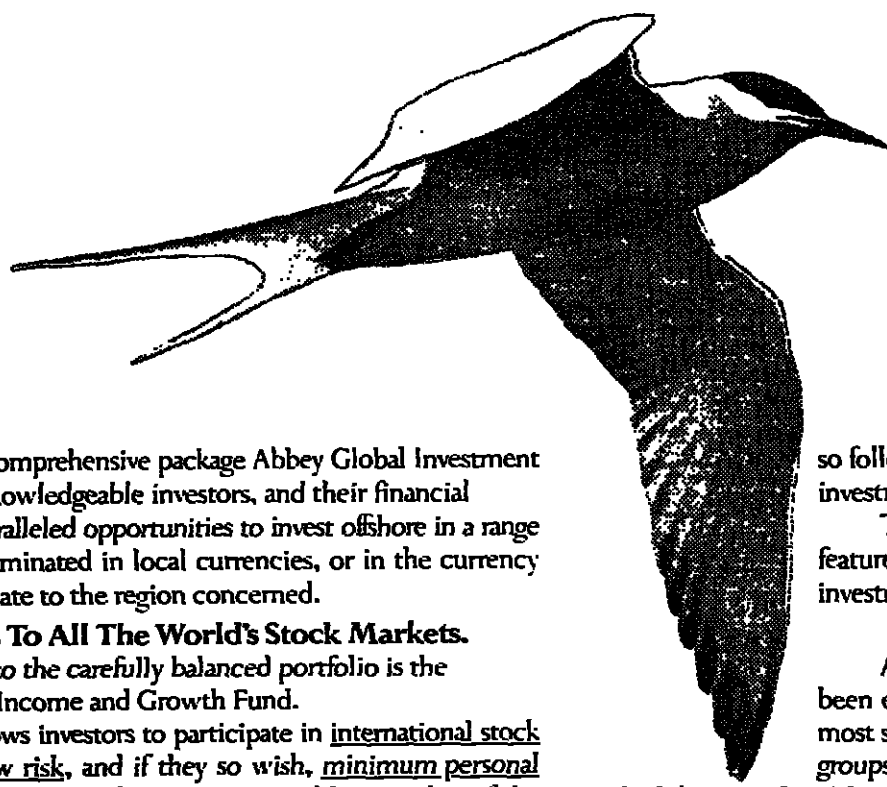
Address

Postcode



Fidelity
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Abbey Global Investment Fund has taken off in Luxembourg.



In one comprehensive package Abbey Global Investment Fund offers knowledgeable investors, and their financial advisors, unparalleled opportunities to invest offshore in a range of funds denominated in local currencies, or in the currency most appropriate to the region concerned.

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Central to the carefully balanced portfolio is the International Income and Growth Fund.

This allows investors to participate in international stock markets at low risk, and if they so wish, minimum personal involvement. Its aim is for an income yield twice that of the FT Actuaries World Index.

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Abbey has looked at switching too, since this is a key feature of these umbrella funds. Switching between funds is currently free of CGT for British investors. In Abbey Global Investment Fund it is also remarkably inexpensive.

The first switch in any year is free and all others are charged at one of the lowest rates ever offered in a fund like this.

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Do not pass up the 1985 port

WINE

CONAL GREGORY, a master of wine, looks at the opening offer on the latest port vintage

Traditionally, port shippers "declare" only the finest years and, even then, only a special selection as of vintage quality. In recent weeks, there has been a flurry of investment interest in the opening prices for the 1985 harvest with a noticeable effect on the port market at auction.

The grapes were mature

Such is the demand from private clients, institutional purchasers and the retail trade that Tom Weir's comments from London's Bow Wine Vaults are typical: "Stocks are extremely limited and we are operating a first-come, first-served system."

After a wet winter in northern Portugal and an exceptionally cold January in 1985, the vines had a damp, cool spring

which was a good prelude to the following really hot, dry summer.

David Delaforce says of Quinta da Corte, one of the estates used for the port that bears his family name, that this good weather "ensured the grapes were perfectly mature when picking started on September 22."

Not surprisingly for such a good harvest, fine ports have been made from the 1985 vintage. The samples show deep violet colour, have promising style on the nose, and are rich with a plummy fruitiness on the palate.

The shippers are enthusiastic. Alistair Robertson of Taylor's says: "The 1985 is of exceptional quality." And Bruce Guimaraes of Fonseca says his port "is a luscious, full and fruity wine with an exceptional high-colour intensity".

Before buying, you should check on shipping and other delivery arrangements. Some merchants quote FOB (Free On Board in Portugal) to which needs to be added the costs of freight to the UK, bond, clearance charges, insurance, excise duty (£18.31

per dozen bottles, plus £1 for Common Customs Tariff), onward transport to your home or cellar, and VAT on the wine and these costs. This totals about £6 per case, plus duty and VAT.

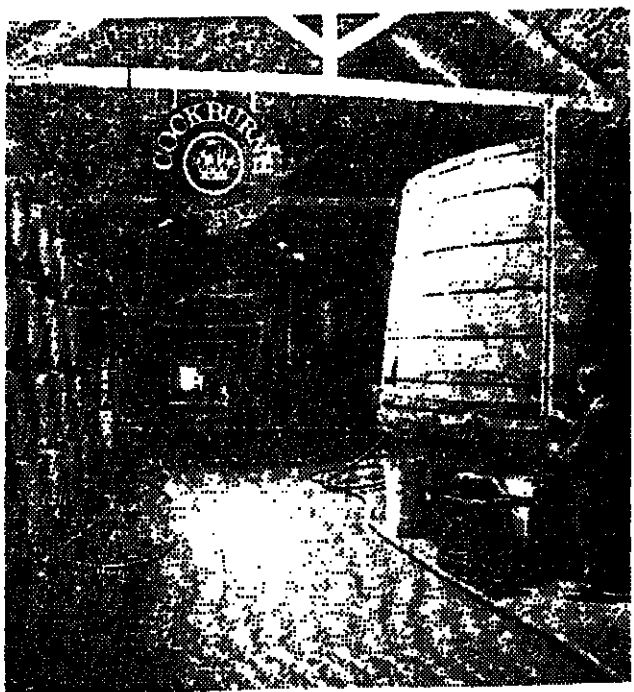
Some quote lying in bond in the UK, although the wine will not be shipped until next spring. A few, like Findlater Mackie Todd of 92 Wigmore Street, London W1H 0BP, quote inclusive of VAT and all charges. They also offer to cellar the port.

In the top group, both Cockburn and Croft show a

Older vintages snapped up

light, balanced style (£140 in bond from Green's of 34 Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3LP, who have one of the most extensive ranges).

Dow shows tannin, which is always required for longevity, and Fonseca will have a long life. Graham has more charm and delicacy (all three quoted at £140 per dozen bottles FOB from Laytons of 20 Midland Road, London NW1 2AD).



Pipes and vats at the Vila Nova de Gaia lodge

In the "second rank", which usually do not appreciate in value at the same rate, are Calém (which noted taster Freddy Price, director of Green's, felt was his favourite), Churchill (£130.92 in bond for six cases, or £134.40 for smaller cases from Lay and Wheeler of 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex CO1 1JA) and Dalva.

Christie's last auction of the year, on July 30, reflected the higher prices in port. Older vintages, particularly 1970, 1975 and 1977, were "snapped up", according to Michael

Broadbent, director of its wine department.

He says the vintage port market at auction is even more buoyant than usual and anticipates an upward movement in the autumn.

The much higher opening prices for the 1985 ports reflect not only Portugal's inflation rate of 9.5 per cent but the investment demand.

At auction, most 1960s are now fetching £200 to £240, the outstanding 1963s £320 to £360, 1966s £190 to £250, 1970s £175 to £220, 1975s £100 to £145, and 1977s £110 to £230.

Putting your trust around the globe

UNIT TRUSTS

How do you choose a unit trust? With well over 1,000 on the market and the numbers increasing every week, it's becoming a major headache for small investors.

You can invest in a unit trust that aims for capital growth, one that goes for income, or a fund that strives for a mixture of capital growth and income.

To add to the complexity of the decision there is no shortage of geographical choice. Apart from the UK, you can invest in unit trusts that specialise in other major world markets such as the US and Japan. Or you can go for a fund that concentrates on a single smaller market - anything and everything from Hong Kong to Switzerland, Spain to Canada.

Of course as soon as you invest in a unit trust that specialises in any overseas market you are taking a risk, not only on the fortunes of the overseas stock market itself but also on the relationship of the local currency to sterling. It's an equation that can work just as easily against you as in your favour.

One way of limiting both

your stock market and currency risk is to invest in an international unit trust.

There are around 135 such funds on the market and, even though some of these concentrate on their own niches such as technology and health care, you can invest in broadly-based international funds available from groups such as Fidelity, Gartmore, GT, Henderson, M&G and S&P.

International funds are not usually the highest of performance flyers. The best-performing funds generally come from the ranks of the highly specialised funds. But those same specialist best-performing funds are quite likely to move from the top positions to the very depths of performance in a short space of time.

So, with an international fund you are essentially hoping to buy good and consistent performance, but not necessarily anything which will provide spectacular growth. This week, Royal Life Fund Managers, part of the giant Royal

Insurance Group, announced details of the biggest ever unit trust marketing campaign to support the launch of three new international funds.

Royal will spend almost £5 million on TV, radio, press and poster advertising, aiming to expand the number of unit trust investors, generally estimated at 1.5 million.

The company hopes to attract at least £300 million of investors' money.

Royal will adopt a style of a stock-market flotation for the launch of its new international funds which are general - cautious growth, and speculative - adding to the risk level for investors.

Unlike share issues, there will be no balloting or scaling down of applications. Royal says all applications will be honoured in full, the minimum investment is £50.

International household-name shares that Royal is likely to commit precious money to include ICI, IBM, Benetton, Honda, Volkswagen and Mobil.

Peter Gifford

How to survive a next-door nuisance

LAW

What can you do if the garden fence has been put in the wrong place, or the neighbours are noisy? What are the laws about overhanging tree branches or building an extension? And what powers has the building society if you fall behind with the mortgage repayments?

An Englishman's home may be his castle but it is still within the ambit of the law. The demand for information about legal rights and remedies is soaring in response to an increasing awareness of "consumerism". In particular, more people are becoming homeowners and want answers to

questions like those posed above - without necessarily incurring the expense of a solicitor, at least in the first instance.

A new book, *The Homeowner's Guide to the Law*, published this month, tries to answer these and a host of other questions that can crop up with property ownership. It looks at lettings and lodgers, trespassers, rights of way, and other rights, boundaries, covenants, mortgages, leaseholds, ground rents and chief rents and, thorniest of all, problems with neighbours.

The author, solicitor Cedric Meadowcroft, advises: "As with disputes over boundaries, so we can say of dis-

putes with neighbours: they should be avoided at all costs."

But there are many things a homeowner may otherwise do quite legitimately on his or her land which give rise to complaint if they interfere with the neighbours' peaceful occupation of their properties. Actions which cause excessive or unreasonable noise or smells, or which produce offensive smoke or fumes are the most common, he says. To constitute "nuisance", for the purposes of legal action, it must generally be continual over a long period; or constantly repeated.

Nuisance has been widely defined by the courts: piling earth against the neighbour's wall which makes his

house damp; causing vibrations which damage the building; regular watching or peering into his house or causing excessive heat which makes his house too hot.

Mr Meadowcroft goes into the possible remedies for various grievances but he adds that anyone who encounters real difficulties with his home or anything else where legal action becomes necessary should go to a lawyer.

Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

* *The Homeowner's Guide to the Law*, £6.95, is available post free from Fourmat Publishing, 27/28 St Alban's Place, London N1 0NX.

OPEN ALL BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

As the more developed economies of mainland Europe, Japan and the United States talk of growth prospects of 1-3% this year, there is another economic zone that boasts of super growth - South East Asia.

For example, in the past year alone, Hong Kong's substantial economy grew by 8.7% and Taiwan has shown an impressive 9.9% growth rate.

All the South East Asian economies are equally confident of strong growth prospects in the coming years.

Small wonder then that Fidelity South East Asia Trust's twelve month performance is up a considerable 91.0%* compared with a rise of 85.2% in the Fidelity South Asia Index over the same period.

Fidelity's greater investment strength.

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The aim of Fidelity South East Asia Trust is to maximise growth from a very actively managed portfolio of South East Asian securities. Today, all these economies are enjoying boom conditions. In the longer term, the greatly undervalued Pacific Region stock markets (particularly when compared with their economic output) offer outstanding potential.

A major underlying signal is the accelerating relocation of traditional Japanese manufacturing and financial organisations into South East Asia.

Already in the shop windows of the western world Made in Hong Kong, Made in Singapore and Made in Taiwan are increasingly being associated with high quality, high technology and leisure goods.

The Pacific Region is fast emerging as one of the world's most important manufacturing zones.

So an investment in South East Asia is an opportunity that should now be seriously considered as complementary to Japan.

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Fidelity
MAKING MONEY MAKE MONEY

Flexible friends for savers

Building societies will be able to offer their savers membership of credit-card networks such as Visa and Mastercard from this autumn as a result of a coming amendment to the 1988 Building Societies Act.

Though societies can issue their own credit cards and offer unsecured loans of up to £5,000, a deficiency in the drafting of the Act prevents their offering facilities linked to other organizations.

The Halifax and the Abbey National, Britain's two biggest building societies, are likely to be among the first to take advantage of the change. Both societies had been looking for authority from their members to provide such services earlier this year but shelved such plans when they realized there were legal problems.

Fraud beater

The Woolwich Building Society has replaced its branch cheques with a new design aimed at beating fraud. Various security measures have been taken including the use of a special paper, which makes it easy to detect whether the cheque is genuine. The society claims to be the first organization to use this paper on its cheques.

The Woolwich also

announced this week that because its first-time buyer centres have proved so popular the service is being extended to all customers. It is also planning to open 50 new centres this autumn at branches across the country. The centres will give advice on mortgages and insurance as well as guidance on solicitors, surveyors and home purchase costs.

Home help

Home Concern in conjunction with the National Housing and Town Planning Council has published *Owning Your Home in Retirement*. The booklet is aimed both at people who want to make their home easier to live in as they get older, and those who want to move to a more manageable place.

It covers what you should look for if buying another home and looks at maintenance and security, heating and ventilation, alterations and extensions. It also lists further sources of help. Copies from: Marketing Department (PR32), Age Concern England, 80 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL. Price £1.50 (incl. p&p).

Confidential

The Consumers Association, like the Office of Fair Trading, sees the need for a code of practice for bank customers. In its reply to the Jack Committee this week, it said customers had the right to expect confidentiality.

Beneficial loans to cost one per cent more

The official rate of interest charged on beneficial loans is being increased from 10.5 per cent to 11.5 per cent, with effect from September 6, 1987. A beneficial loan is a cheap or interest-free loan provided by an employer. The benefit received on such loans by directors or employees earning £2,500 or more, including any benefits and expenses pay-

ments, is taxable. The taxable element is the difference between the interest paid (any, during the tax year, and the interest calculated using the official rate. No tax is payable where the benefit amounts to less than £200 a year. The interest on unpaid and overpaid tax is being increased at the same time from 8.25 per cent to 9 per cent.

MERCURY UNIT TRUSTS - AN INVESTOR'S GUIDE

Mercury Fund Managers, one of Britain's fastest growing and most successful managers of unit trusts, has produced a free handbook describing its full range of unit trusts and services.

If you require a monthly income from your investment, details of a Planned Income Portfolio are contained in the handbook.

Details of how to use shares you hold to purchase units are also available. Or you may choose to build up an investment from as little as £35 a month through the Mercury Savings Plan.

Complete this coupon and return to: Mercury Fund Managers, FREEPOST, London E14 4DD. Name and address of investor.

Please send me a copy of Investor's Guide to the Mercury Unit Trusts. ☐ Mercury Share Exchange Scheme ☐ Mercury Unit Trusts

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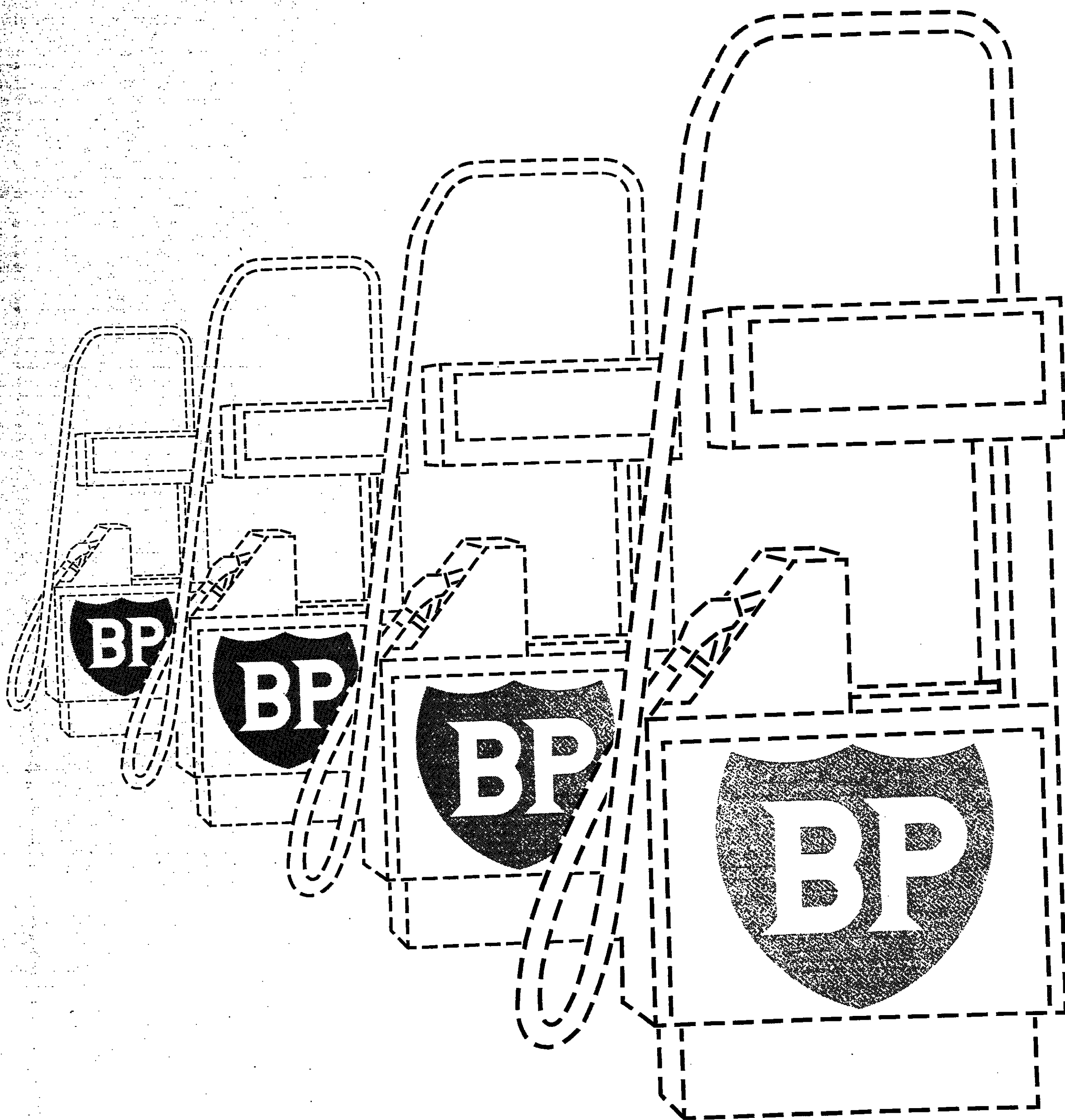
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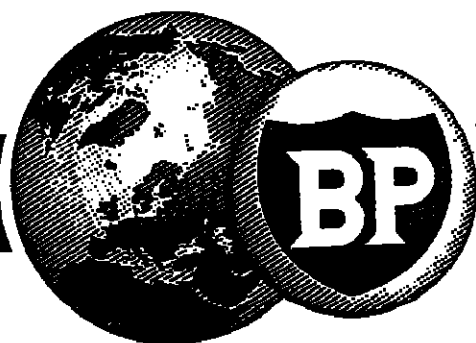
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LEGAL AND FINANCIAL

Accessory after the fact

The pinnacle of legal one-upmanship is being wired to a computer whose laser-like brain can spew forth all the facts relevant to a case, reports Edward Fennell



The latest status symbol among small accountants and solicitors is possession of an up-to-date mobile computer. Now that just about anyone can own and run common-or-garden Amstrads and BBC Micros, the real kudos comes from having a customized system which has been to the right school, speaks with the right accent, and comes equipped with useful business and social contacts.

Feminism and the rise of women professionals have long paid to any display of attractive or well-connected secretaries. For real power plays you need a glossy, well-heeled keyboard.

Among lawyers, the pinnacle of computerized one-upmanship is probably a subscription to Lexis, the computerized legal research service based in Dayton, Ohio. All the top 30 London practices are now wired up to the system and, according to one judge, "No case now goes to the Court of Appeal or to the Lords without having been first researched through it."

Lexis takes the slog out of research. Rather than bringing in a chain-gang of article clerks to sift through piles of indexes, digests and legal commentaries, the laser-like brain in Dayton can penetrate the colic and gloom of history and spew forth all the references relevant to your particular case. What might have taken days or weeks is accomplished within minutes.

Lexis's bright red publicity material from Butterworth's claims that "All lawyers need Lexis". But, of course, it doesn't mean it. After all, part of the cachet of having Lexis is its exclusiveness. "Lexis reflects the kind of work a firm does," says Kyle Hosworth, a director of Butterworth Telepublishing which markets the service in the UK. "Frankly it's an extremely difficult tool to use, but once you've mastered it, oh boy, the results are amazing."

Someone who admits to being moderately amazed by Lexis is Peter Camp, the head of Education and Training at Clifford Chance and formerly on the staff of the College of Law. Mr Camp makes sure that all his article clerks are trained on the system, but he has moments of anxiety in case all these modern conveniences are in danger of making the young lawyer lazy.

After all, the tough initiation ceremonies and trial by tedium which sorted

out the real lawyers from the left-overs could be made to look pretty silly if all you need to do is press a button for instant information.

The question for many outfits is which comes cheaper - people or technology? And, of course, technology is increasingly coming out on top.

Peter Marwick McLintock, the management accountants, claim to have more micros per head than any other London accounting firm and reckons that savings of 20 per cent have been achieved since the widespread introduction of computers. "We use Apple Macs, IBM and their lookalikes," said PMM's Tim Roberts, "and we're currently examining how we can expand the system so that we can use it with our offices internationally."

PMM's real edge over its rivals, however, comes from having an in-house squadron of superbrains who have devised software for the firm's exclusive use. "Well, we're doing this kind of thing all the time for our clients," purred Mr Roberts, "so we might just as well do it for ourselves."

A recent survey by *The Times* showed that having one's own personalized software was still, however, the preserve of only a minority of solicitors, with Simmons & Simmons being one of the rare experimenters.

Solicitors, it must be said, are nowhere near as advanced in their use of computers as their accountancy cousins. There is still the apprehension that while technology may have become very smart the question remains of whether it is really respectable.

Wang, for example, has done quite well out of supplying computers to solicitors. But some of the old guard might have reservations about admitting to clients that Great Uncle Arthur's last Will and Testament was not piously penned in copperplate but clattered out on the Wang wordprocessor.

This may account for some of the difficulties faced by Sweet & Maxwell in selling its Magna system of legal precedents. Magna is a library of computer discs that can run on most wordprocessing systems. So if you want a set of precedents for conveyancing, settlements, powers of attorney or the composition of wills, Magna will whizz one up for you (or IBM or Word-perplex or Philips) in the wink of an eye.

But according to Russell Jordan of Sweet & Maxwell, "Solicitors are a bit slow in adapting to new technology" and they also seem to bridle at the suggestion that they should automatically adopt the formula words beamed at them by their electronic box. "Many of them tend to have their own tried and tested methods and they are not too keen to change", conceded Mr Jordan.

Certainly Richard Egglestone of the Hampshire firm Ellis Egglestone admitted that "We're not in the first division as far as technology is concerned but I think that's true of most of the firms around here. I don't think we've got to the stage of needing it".

Keyboard-crazy accountants, however, need no persuasion to install a few more terminals or build up the megabytes. Data Logic, one of Britain's leading software houses, has been doing business for years with the likes of Price Waterhouse, supplying them first with wordprocessing hardware and latterly with software packages.

Data Logic has much wider ambitions, however, than this fairly routine kind of work. In the run-up to Big Bang and thereafter it has been chalking up enormous sales to banks by selling them Dealing Room systems which keep them ahead in the world money markets.

Deep down in the bowels of its headquarters in Harrow, meanwhile, Data Logic has also been doing top secret tests, using real money, to see what happens when you hand over dealing decisions to computerized "artificial intelligence". Rumour has it that the computers can beat human beings (if hand-over-fist in predicting which way the market will jump).

The important question is, when will this artificial intelligence be applied to the law? Concern has already been expressed at the competence of the average jury to understand complex commercial cases. And with computer crime rising, isn't it only right that we should start putting computers in the dock, charge them with being accessories to the crime, and having their case judged by a jury of their peers?

What about electing a foreman, you ask? Don't worry. I'm sure that a white-shirted, squeaky-clean IBM PC would volunteer for the job.

Use of tape recordings and transcripts in trials

Regina v Rampling
Before Lord Justice O'Connor,
Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Ognall

(Judgment July 28)
The Court of Appeal gave guidance upon the use in trials of tape recordings and transcripts in dismissing the appeal of Janice Rampling against her conviction on October 28, 1986 in Maldstone Crown Court (Judge Russell Wick, QC and a jury) of conspiracy to defraud creditors, for which she was sentenced to six months' imprisonment suspended for one year.

Mr Timothy Bowles, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant, Mr Keith Simpson for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE DRAKE said that their Lordships had been told that there was still some misunderstanding or confusion when in trials tape recordings and transcripts were produced.

In any case where interviews by police officers were tape recorded their Lordships thought that:

1 The tape could be produced and proved by the interviewing officer or any other officer

present when it was taken. There was no need to call the audio-typist who transcribed the tape.

2 The officer should have listened to the tape before the trial so that he could deal with any objections to its authenticity or accuracy.

3 As to authenticity he could, if required, prove who spoke the recorded words.

4 As to accuracy he could deal with any challenge, for example that the recording had been falsified by any addition or omission.

5 The transcript of the tape recording could be produced by the interviewing officer who should, before the trial, have checked it against the tape recording for accuracy. The tape recording was the evidence in the case and could be made an exhibit. The transcript was used in the same way as a schedule was often used, as a convenience to the jury. The transcript was not in itself evidence.

6 The use of the transcript was an administrative matter to be decided in his discretion by the trial judge. In many cases the defendant would agree to the use of the transcript and would not require the tape recording to be played at all. In such cases the transcript would be read out by the officer who produced it just as he would read out a contemporaneous note. However, the defendant was entitled if he so wished or required to have the tape or any part of it played to the jury.

7 If the tape or any part of it was played, it was for the judge to decide whether the jury should have the transcript in order to follow the tape and to take it with them when they retired. The use of the transcript within the judge's discretion was not dependent on the consent of the defendant or that of the prosecution.

Each case had to be decided by the judge in his discretion on its own facts.

However, in the collective experience of the court a transcript was usually of very considerable value to the jury to follow the evidence and take to the jury room when they retired.

In the present case there was nothing in the ground of appeal objecting to the use of the transcript.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Maidstone.

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Governments plans are thwarted by passive resistance

By Ian Stafford

A survey of all 92 clubs in the Football League by *The Times* shows that the League has fallen well short of Government requirements for membership schemes. Some clubs have not understood what is required of them and many are opposed to the February agreement requiring 50 per cent of ground capacity to be reserved for members.

Just 11 clubs meet the Government's requirements, and only two of those, Derby County and Luton Town, are in the first division. The others are Reading and Swindon (second division), Brighton, Grimsby and Notts County (third division) and Colchester, Peterborough, Scunthorpe and Torquay (fourth division).

At second division Barnsley there is no membership scheme and the club have no

plans to implement one. Michael Spinks, the club secretary, said a 34 per cent membership policy was proposed because of problems in implementing the scheme in their ground which is not designed for such purposes. The League rejected the proposal but have not given alternative suggestions.

At third division Fulham, half of the Craven Cottage ground is available solely for members, but it can be used by any supporter, regardless of whether they own a membership card or not. "If we are told by the League it is compulsory to allow only members to use the designated area then we will have to abide," Yvonne Haines, the club secretary, said.

Voicing the views of many clubs, Barnsley's secretary, Michael Spinks said: "The

supporters do not want a membership scheme and it does not make commercial sense. We do not have crowd trouble at Barnsley."

Remarks from Wolverhampton Wanderers will almost certainly make the Football League wince. The fourth division club whose supporters wrecked the opening day of the season by their violent antics at Scarborough, and who have a membership scheme for 43 per cent of their home area, are against the idea of such a system.

"The League have no idea how much work such a plan involves for a club such as us," Keith Pearson, their secretary, said. "It is absolutely ridiculous to think these schemes will work and as a result of imposing it here we have many irate supporters. But the League don't think, do they?"

Secretary D Downe said: "Had major problems for our first game against Leicester. Bad defeat for supporters kept waiting outside."

Leicester City 53 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. 10 per cent of home area reserved for members.

Manchester City None, but in process of implementing 50 per cent scheme. Last September 18, 100 per cent of home area reserved for members.

Middlesbrough 48 per cent, approved by League. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Millwall 33 per cent, increase to 49 per cent by October. Took time to arrange policy.

Oldham Athletic 44 per cent of home area. Had a minor scheme of 10 per cent since 1984.

Plymouth Argyle 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Reading 65 per cent of home area, 55 per cent of ground capacity.

Sheffield Utd 44 per cent of home area, approved. Duty of ground layout. Part of South Yorkshire scheme.

Shrewsbury Town 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme.

Stoke City 57 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Swindon Town 73 per cent of home area, 65 per cent of ground capacity.

West Bromwich Albion 25 per cent, approved by police and league. Will have extensive ground capacity to increase figure.

Wimbledon 48 per cent of home area. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Blackburn 48 per cent of home area. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Birmingham City 53 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Barnsley None. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Manchester Utd 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Newcastle Utd 25 per cent of home area, approved by League. Small percentage due to problems of ground layout.

Norwich City 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Nottingham Forest None, but will implement 50 per cent from September 12. Approved by League, ground problems.

Oxford United 62 per cent of home area, but 43 per cent of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Portsmouth 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Queen's Park Rangers 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Sheffield Wednesday 50 per cent of home area, but short of Government scheme. Secretary: "I have had a lot of trouble with the scheme. It is a society problem. I expect to see it in the future. It is a society problem."

Waiting on the wing for glory

By Clive White

Once you have thrilled the *cognoscenti* in the Maracanã Stadium there is, I suppose, only one way a career can go. Not that many careers, let alone a zenith, but having lived the impossible dream at the very green age of 20, John Barnes had every reason to believe that life could only get a little sweeter.

But in those intervening three years the picture of Barnes, outdazzling even the Brazilians and the Rio sunshine with that impossible goal in 1984, has faded from the memory to be replaced by one of a sometimes brilliant, sometimes infuriatingly subdued, almost laconic, individual. "There are things I am weak at and will always be weak at. I think you should concentrate more on your strengths," he says.

The dull side of that image came into focus with sad coincidence on May 19 this year when Barnes, ideally placed in the European shop window at Wimbledon, gave an inexplicably anonymous performance against Brazil. Sadly, the richer memory has disappeared even for Barnes. "I'll have to get a piece of it," he said yesterday, like someone trying to force a smile. What he does remember is that he thought then that he would become a fixture in the England team "until the end of my career".

Instead he has found himself more often than not waiting in the wings, the left wing to be precise, which is where Barnes will probably be found when Bobby Robson, the England manager, announces his squad next Tuesday to play West Germany in Dusseldorf on September 9.

Since the Mexico World Cup, a scene which should have been the perfect setting for Barnes's economic skills, his role has switched in favour to three midfield players and one winger. Waddle. But because Waddle does not see the Tottenham Hotspur as his rival, in fact, anyone else.

"It all depends on which formation the manager wants to play," he said. "If Bobby Robson is looking to play with a third midfielder player, then Steve Hodge fits the bill. He is a totally different player to play. But if the manager wants to play the same reason."

Today's Team News

Arsenal v Portsmouth Merson is included in the Arsenal squad, so putting pressure on Nicholas and Smith who have yet to score. Richardson, the new signing, is also named. Shotton makes his debut for Tottenham while Marnett, Charlton's goalkeeper, is named.

Charlton v Man Utd United are unchanged for the fourth successive match. Charlton have not announced a squad.

Chelsea v Luton Durie, who injured a foot last week, is expected to return to the Chelsea squad. He is expected to make his debut at Norwich on Tuesday.

Coventry v Liverpool Liverpool are unchanged for the fourth successive match. Arsenal, who scored against Atletico Madrid in midweek, are expected to play.

Derby v Wimbledon Derby makes his debut for Derby, but who will stand down? Captain, and MacLennan, remains a puzzle. Lillis and Blades are added to the team who drew at Colchester. Gibson makes his debut in place of Sayer and Goobey may play his first game in place of Scales, who is expected to return to the West Ham squad. Norwich will be unchanged.

West Ham v Norwich Dickson stands by in the West Ham squad. Norwich will be unchanged.

Watford v Tottenham Tottenham have returned from their tour of Europe. Clatten is expected to make his debut at Norwich on Tuesday.

Southampton v QPR Rangers, the League leaders, are unchanged. Southampton have recalled Walker, who has been out with a leg injury since the opening day. Le Tissier is back in the squad after a twisting a knee.

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Barnes: new kit and new stage for his precocious talent

perfect goals: great goalscorers get them with their kaseaps," he said.

Taylor wishes nothing but the best for Barnes, which he believes the England international can now achieve by his £900,000 move to Liverpool, but, Taylor believes, Barnes cannot realize his potential there he will not do so anywhere else. "He said he wanted to play at the highest level," Taylor said. "Well that is the 1990 World Cup and Liverpool can't do any more for him at Watford."

"It's up to him, though he will need the service. He has the stage now he's got to find the consistency, the mental toughness which separates great players from good ones. As a 22-year-old he's got to be too old at 31 to make it in 1994."

Swift Reading debut for Tait

Reading yesterday signed Mick Tait. Portsmouth's utility player, aged 30, for £50,000. He makes his debut at Elm Park in today's second division match against Plymouth.

Ian Branford, the Reading manager, said that he was looking to buy more players following Reading's summer sales of Trevor Senior, Kevin Bremner and Steve Woods.

Nottingham Forest, meanwhile, must wait until Everton's injury problems clear up before they get a reply on their £270,000 bid for Alan Harper.

Freight Rover Trophy

Preliminary round: Group One: York City; Darlington; Chesterfield; Group Two: Rotherham United; Scarborough; Sunderland; Group Three: Scunthorpe United; Grimsby Town; Halifax Town; Group Four: Doncaster Rovers; Mansfield Town; Hartlepool United; Group Five: Tranmere Rovers; Burnley; Group Six: Carlisle United; Chester City; Blackpool; Group Seven: Walsley; Group Eight: Wigan Athletic; Crewe Alexandra; Bury.

Southern Section: Group One: Southend United; Fulham; Brighton and Hove Albion; Group Two: Maidstone United; Leyton Orient; Group Three: Notts County; Northampton Town; Brentford; Group Four: Colchester United; Peterborough United; Cambridge United; Group Five: Torquay United; Bristol City; Group Six: Weymouth; Group Seven: Newport County; Port Vale; Exeter City; Group Eight: Wrexham; Group Nine: Walsley; Group Ten: Wigan Athletic; Crewe Alexandra; Bury.

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Serious business of high seas has no fears for Sirius IV

From Barry Pickthall, Kiel

In a remarkable display of superior boat speed, Sirius IV, skippered by Ian Anderson, of Denmark, yesterday won the first 27-mile Olympic race in the One Ton Cup, overcoming boisterous conditions which tested the strength of teamwork, equipment and stomachs.

The Spanish yacht, designed by Bruce Farr, was followed across the line 37 seconds later by Franck X. her skipper, which is campaigned by Crown Prince Harald of Norway, with Britain's Harold Cudmore, aboard Mayanka, the Spanish entry, taking third.

Jamarella, skippered by Rodney Pattison and Lawrie Smith, was the best-placed British yacht, ending the day in eighth place, after dropping four places mid-way through, when they were caught out by a wrong headsail call on the third beat and a broach during the final

Tony Gale and his crew aboard Juno endured an even worse time when both sets of runners broke during the final beat. Their struggle to keep the mast in one piece as they crashed through the vicious Baltic chop, cost them six places as they slipped to eighteenth in the run to the finish.

For other crews however, more damage was sustained during spectacular breeches. Chinese gybes and wipe-outs on the final leg New Yorker, the West German entry, and Andelstanken, the current champion boat, both lost their masts when their crew failed to release the backstays while gybing in the 23-knot winds.

RESULTS: 1. Sirius IV, Ian Anderson (Denmark); 2. Franck X, Franck X (Norway); 3. Mayanka, Harold Cudmore (Britain); 4. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 5. New Yorker, New Yorker (China); 6. Juno, Tony Gale (Britain); 7. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 8. Jamarella, Rodney Pattison (Britain); 9. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 10. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 11. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 12. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 13. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 14. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 15. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 16. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 17. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 18. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 19. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 20. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 21. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 22. Andelstanken, Andelstanken (West Germany); 23. 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